SECRET SERVICE 234

KENT BLAKE OF THE SECRET SERVICE

SEPT. 10¢

REAL BEHIND-THE-SCENES STORIES OF HOW THE U.S. SECRET GOVERNMENT AGENTS TRACK DOWN DANGEROUS ENEMY SPIES!

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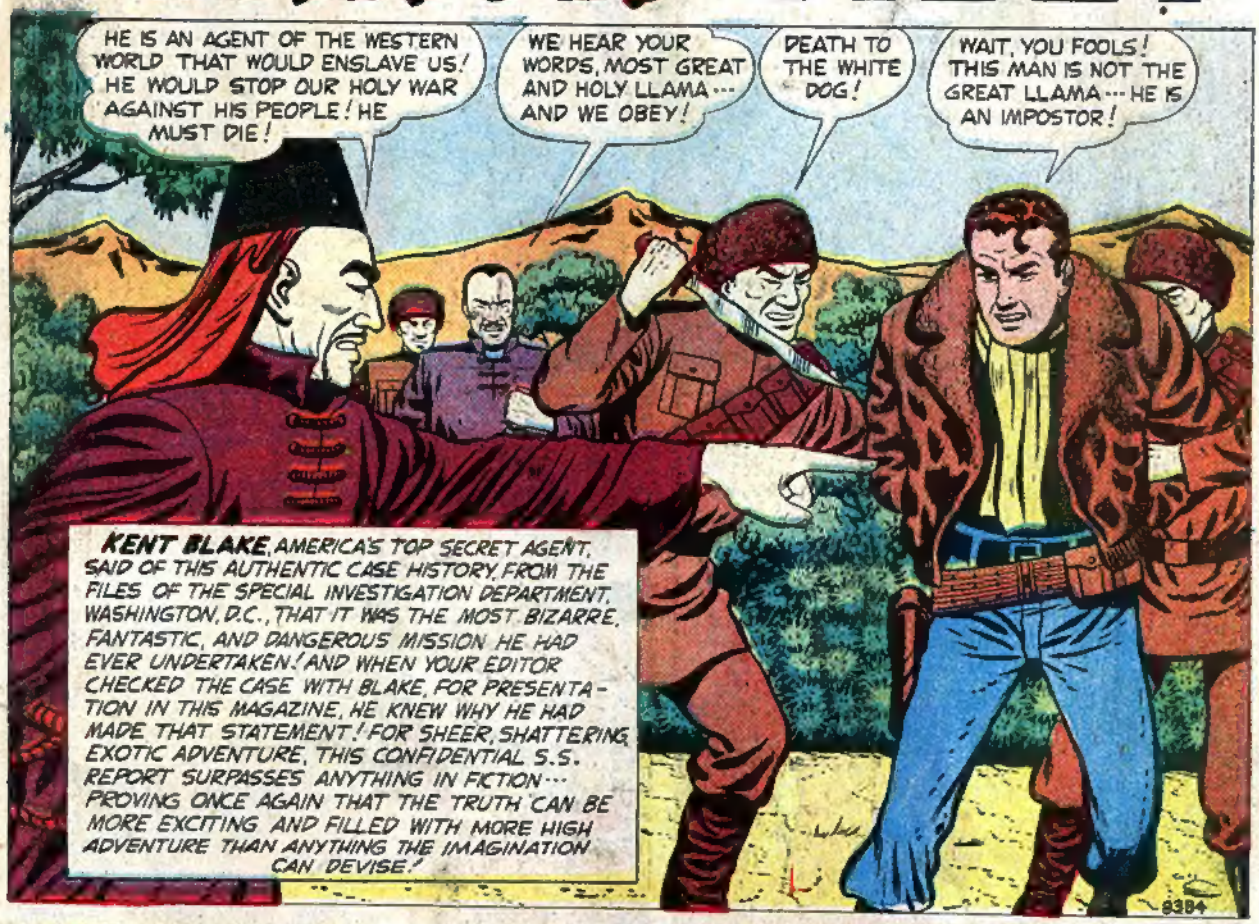
TERROR IN TIBET


HE IS AN AGENT OF THE WESTERN WORLD THAT WOULD ENSLAVE US! HE WOULD STOP OUR HOLY WAR AGAINST HIS PEOPLE! HE MUST DIE!
WE HEAR YOUR WORDS, MOST GREAT AND HOLY LLAMA··· AND WE OBEY!
DEATH TO THE WHITE DOG!
WAIT, YOU FOOLS! THIS MAN IS NOT THE GREAT LLAMA··· HE IS AN IMPOSTOR!
KENT BLAKE, AMERICA'S TOP SECRET AGENT, SAID OF THIS AUTHENTIC CASE HISTORY, FROM THE FILES OF THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C., THAT IT WAS THE MOST BIZARRE, FANTASTIC, AND DANGEROUS MISSION HE HAD EVER UNDERTAKEN! AND WHEN YOUR EDITOR CHECKED THE CASE WITH BLAKE, FOR PRESENTATION IN THIS MAGAZINE, HE KNEW WHY HE HAD MADE THAT STATEMENT! FOR SHEER, SHATTERING, EXOTIC ADVENTURE, THIS CONFIDENTIAL S.S. REPORT SURPASSES ANYTHING IN FICTION··· PROVING ONCE AGAIN THAT THE TRUTH CAN BE MORE EXCITING AND FILLED WITH MORE HIGH ADVENTURE THAN ANYTHING THE IMAGINATION CAN DEVISE!

ON OCTOBER 16, 1950, A PLANE THROBBED SOFTLY IN THE DARKNESS HIGH OVER TIBET. AND A FEW MINUTES LATER TWO MEN FLOATED EARTHWARD!

WE MUST HIDE THE CHUTES! NO ONE MUST KNOW WE LANDED! THEN I WILL STAIN YOUR SKIN SO YOU WILL APPEAR LIKE AN ASIATIC, COMRADE!
YES, WU, WE MUST MAKE NO MISTAKES··· IT WOULD MEAN OUR LIVES, AND DEFEAT OF OUR GREAT MISSION!

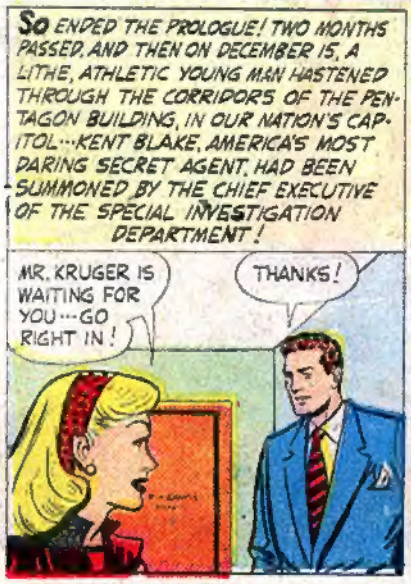
ALL NAMES AND PLACES IN THESE TRUE-TO-LIFE STORIES ARE FICTITIOUS
ANY SIMILARITY BETWEEN ACTUAL PERSONS OR PLACES AND THOSE USED IN THESE STORIES IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL

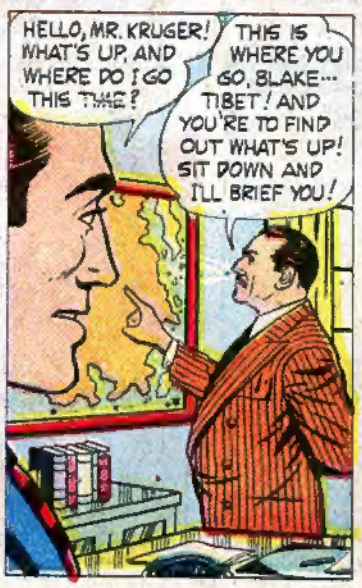
WITHIN A FEW MINUTES AN EMERGENCY TENT WAS SET UP AND THE TWO MEN PREPARED THEMSELVES FOR THEIR BLOODY MISSION!
THERE! NOW NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO TELL YOU FROM THE GREAT LLAMA! EVEN YOUR EYES HAVE THE SAME SLIGHT SLANT!
REMEMBER, I COME FROM THE STEPPES, AND POSSESS SOME MONGOLOID BLOOD! BUT LET US NOT WASTE TIME, GET THE COSTUMES AND WE'LL PROCEED ON OUR WAY!

HOW FAR IS THE LLAMASARY FROM HERE?
ONLY ABOUT TWO MILES! WE WILL HAVE NO DIFFICULTY GETTING TO THE GREAT LLAMA ...HE IS A MAN OF PEACE AND HOLINESS, AND IS NOT GUARDED!

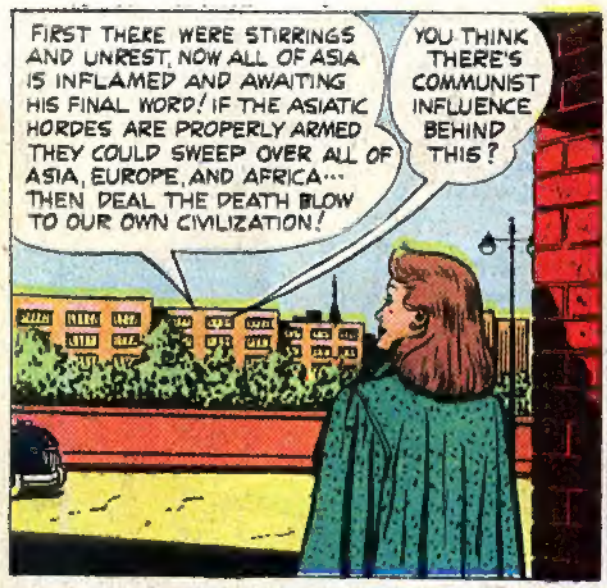
AN HOUR LATER, TWO SINISTER FIGURES STEAL THROUGH THE SHADOWED AUSTERITY OF THE LLAMASARY, TO THE BARE ROOM OF THE GREAT LLAMA!
WHO COMES, DISTURBING MY REST? WHAT CAN I DO TO EASE YOUR SOULS, MY CHILDREN?
WE BRING YOU GREETINGS FROM THE COMMUNISTS OF THE WORLD!
AND WE BRING YOU...

DEATH!
ARRGGHHH!


SO ENDED THE PROLOGUE! TWO MONTHS PASSED, AND THEN ON DECEMBER 15, A LITHE, ATHLETIC YOUNG MAN HASTENED THROUGH THE CORRIDORS OF THE PENTAGON BUILDING, IN OUR NATION'S CAPITOL...KENT BLAKE, AMERICA'S MOST DARING SECRET AGENT, HAD BEEN SUMMONED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT!
MR. KRUGER IS WAITING FOR YOU...GO RIGHT IN!
THANKS!


HELLO, MR. KRUGER! WHAT'S UP, AND WHERE DO I GO THIS TIME?
THIS IS WHERE YOU GO, BLAKE... TIBET! AND YOU'RE TO FIND OUT WHAT'S UP! SIT DOWN AND I'LL BRIEF YOU!

THE GREAT LLAMA OF TIBET IS A PEACEFUL, HOLY MAN WHO IS THE SPIRITUAL LEADER OF MILLIONS OF ASIATICS! THOSE MILLIONS WILL FOLLOW HIM IN ANYTHING HE PREACHES BECAUSE TO THEM, HE IS THE LIVING GOD! TWO MONTHS AGO THE GREAT LLAMA TURNED FROM PEACE AND BEGAN PREACHING A HOLY WAR AGAINST THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE!
I'M BEGINNING TO GET THE PICTURE!

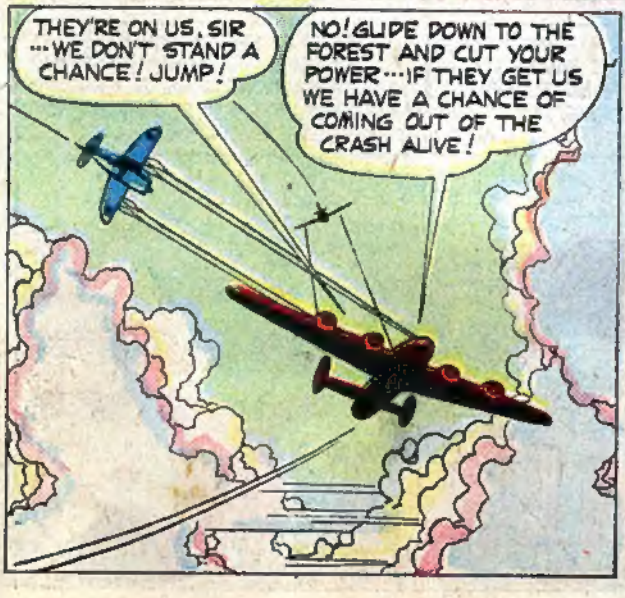

FIRST THERE WERE STIRRINGS AND UNREST, NOW ALL OF ASIA IS INFLAMED AND AWAITING HIS FINAL WORD! IF THE ASIATIC HORDES ARE PROPERLY ARMED THEY COULD SWEEP OVER ALL OF ASIA, EUROPE, AND AFRICA··· THEN DEAL THE DEATH BLOW TO OUR OWN CIVILIZATION!
YOU THINK THERE'S COMMUNIST INFLUENCE BEHIND THIS?

YES! YOU MUST GET TO THE GREAT LLAMA AND IN SOME WAY PERSUADE HIM TO CALL THIS JEHAD OF HATE OFF! A PLANE WILL TAKE YOU TO TIBET, AND YOU MUST REACH THE GREAT LLAMA'S ENTOURAGE BEFORE HE MAKES HIS FINAL SPEECH IN THE MOUNTAINS NEAR LLASA! THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT MISSION YOU HAVE EVER UNDERTAKEN, BLAKE!
I'LL BONE UP ON ALL THE DETAILS AND BE READY TO LEAVE BY TOMORROW!

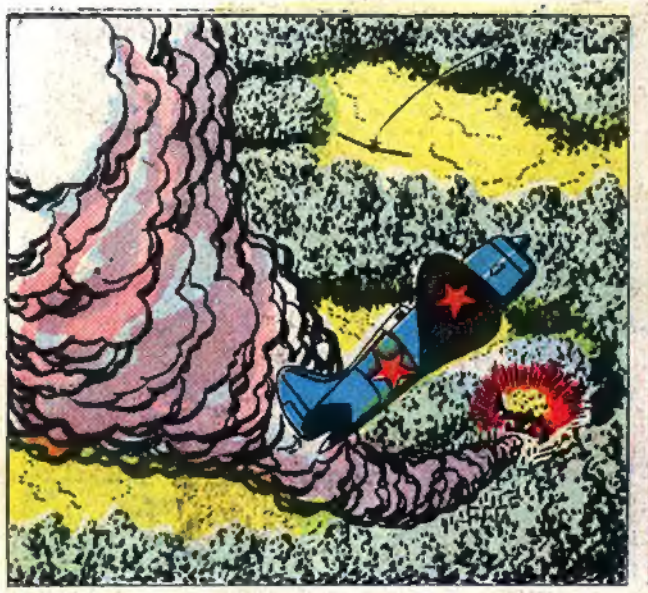
ON DECEMBER 16, A PLANE, DEVOID OF INSIGNIA, ZOOMED INTO THE BLUE, FROM A HIDDEN AIRFIELD NORTH OF WASHINGTON, CARRYING A SINGLE PASSENGER!
GOOD LUCK, KENT BLAKE, I'VE A HUNCH YOU'LL NEED IT!

I'M GOING TO GET SOME SHUT EYE, KREVITT!
GO AHEAD, SIR! I'LL CALL YOU IN PLENTY OF TIME TO ADJUST YOUR CHUTE AND BAIL OUT!

BLAKE DIDN'T KNOW HOW LONG HE SLEPT, BUT HE AWOKE TENSE AND ALERT WITH THE PILOT'S URGENT VOICE RINGING LIKE A TOCSIN OF DOOM IN HIS EAR!
SIR, WAKE UP! YAKS COMING IN ON US FROM TEN O'CLOCK! WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS?
YAKS! I CAN'T JUMP ···THEY'D KNOW WHAT I WAS UP TO! TRY TO LOSE THEM! IT'S THE ONLY WAY!


THEY'RE ON US, SIR ···WE DON'T STAND A CHANCE! JUMP!
NO! GLIDE DOWN TO THE FOREST AND CUT YOUR POWER···IF THEY GET US WE HAVE A CHANCE OF COMING OUT OF THE CRASH ALIVE!

THEY···THEY GOT ME ···I'M DONE FOR! GRAB THE CONTROLS, SIR, I···ARRGGHHH!
SO LONG, KREVITT! WHEREVER YOU'RE GOING I MAY BE JOINING YOU, SOON!



THE YAKS CIRCLED THE CRASHED PLANE, THEN FLEW AWAY FROM THEIR VICTIM! A FEW MINUTES LATER A BATTERED FIGURE CRAWLED OUT FROM UNDER THE WRECKAGE!

MUST GET AT A DISTANCE BEFORE THOSE FLAMES REACH THE GAS TANKS! I··· I'LL NEVER KNOW HOW I CAME OUT OF THAT ···THAT CRASH, ALIVE!

EVERYTHING'S TURNING BL··· BLACK! OHHHH!

WHEN BLAKE AGAIN CAME TO HE FOUND HIMSELF IN THE MIDST OF A PROCESSION OF TIBETANS, AND NEXT TO HIS LITTER STRODE A TALL MAN!

WH··WHERE AM I?

AH, YOU HAVE AWAKENED! YOU HAVE BEEN UNCONSCIOUS FOR DAYS! WE JOURNEY TOWARD THE MOUNTAINS NEAR LLASA WHERE MY BROTHER, THE GREAT LLAMA, WILL SPEAK TO THE TRIBESMEN TOMORROW AT DAWN!

YOUR BROTHER! STOP THE CARAVAN··WE MUST SPEAK TOGETHER!

HALT, MY CHILDREN! WE CANNOT STAY LONG, FOR I MUST REACH MY BROTHER AND TURN HIM FROM HIS MAD SCHEME OF BLOOD AND WAR! I DO NOT UNDERSTAND··· HE WAS ALWAYS A SAINTLY MAN OF PEACE!

BLAKE KNEW THAT NOW HE HAD BUT ONE CHANCE IN A MILLION TO ACCOMPLISH HIS MISSION! HE DECIDED TO TAKE ONE WILD GAMBLE, AND TOLD THE GREAT LLAMA'S BROTHER, LLAMA NEI DALAI, THE WHOLE STORY!

···AND WE ARE SURE THAT YOUR BROTHER IS BEING MADE A TOOL OF THE COMMIES! YOU MUST HELP ME GET TO HIM··· SPEAK TO HIM!

I WILL DO IT! MY MEN SHALL HIDE AND BE READY TO HELP IF NEEDED! YOU SHALL BE HIDDEN IN A PANNIER TIED TO ONE OF THE BEASTS, AND I WILL APPROACH, SEEMINGLY ALONE!

BLAKE, CRAMPED AND JOUNCED IN THE DARKNESS OF THE PANNIER, SMELLED THE SMOKE OF MANY FIRES AND HEARD THE RESTLESS MOVEMENT OF A HUGE MULTITUDE AS NEI DALAI THREADED THROUGH THE WILD HORDES TOWARD THE MOUNTAIN!

KEEP HIDDEN, FRIEND, WE WILL SOON BE THERE!

PEACE BE UPON YOU, MY CHILDREN! I WOULD SPEAK WITH MY BROTHER, THE GREAT LLAMA!
NO ONE CAN APPROACH THE GREAT LLAMA, BE IT HIS MOTHER HERSELF! NOW TURN AND RETRACE YOUR STEPS, LLAMA, OR EVIL MAY BEFALL YOU!
BROTHER! THEY WILL NOT LET ME···! WAIT! THAT MAN IS NOT MY BROTHER···HE APPEARS LIKE HIM, BUT IT IS NOT HE!
GRAB HIM AND SHUT HIM UP, QUICK! SEARCH THE BEAST HE HAS BROUGHT, TOO!
THE MAN LIES!
THERE IS A MAN OF THE WESTERN WORLD HIDDEN IN THE PANNIER!
COVER HIM AND DRAG HIM OUT!
WHERE'S NEI DALAI'S HIDDEN MEN? IF THEY HESITATE TO STRIKE AT THE GREAT LLAMA'S MEN, WE'RE GONERS!
THAT MAN MUST BE AN AGENT OF THE ALLIES!
WE MUST GET RID OF THEM IN A HURRY, BEFORE THEY CAN SAY ANY-MORE!
SLAY THESE TWO! ONE IS A LIAR AND THE OTHER AN AGENT OF THE WESTERN POWERS THAT WOULD ENSLAVE US AND STOP OUR HOLY WAR AGAINST THEM!
DEATH TO THE WHITE DOG!
WAIT, YOU FOOLS! THIS MAN IS AN IMPOSTOR!
NEI'S MEN! THANK HEAVENS!
IT'S GOING WRONG ···ALL OF IT! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE AND SAVE OUR OWN SKINS!
NO, GET THE WHITE MAN AND THE OTHER ONE AND WE CAN STILL TURN THE TIDE!
BAM

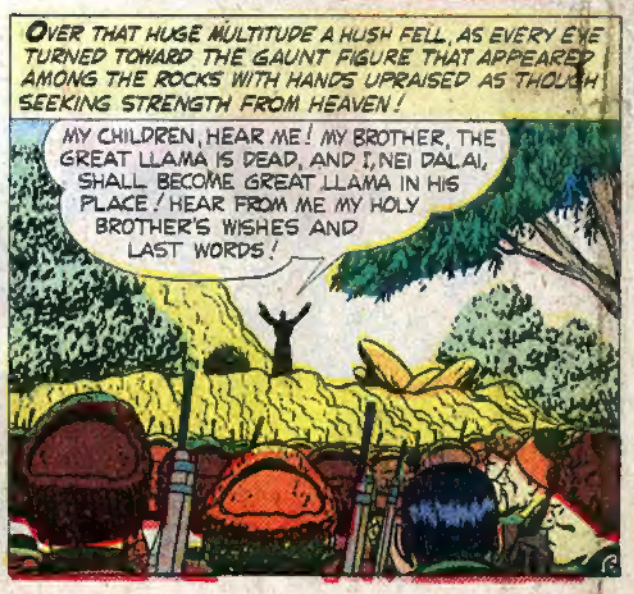
STEADY···YOU ARE SHOOTING WILDLY!
HE MOVES LIKE A CAT!
YOU MADE A BIG MISTAKE, IMPOSTER ···YOU DIDN'T SEARCH ME!
BAM
BAM

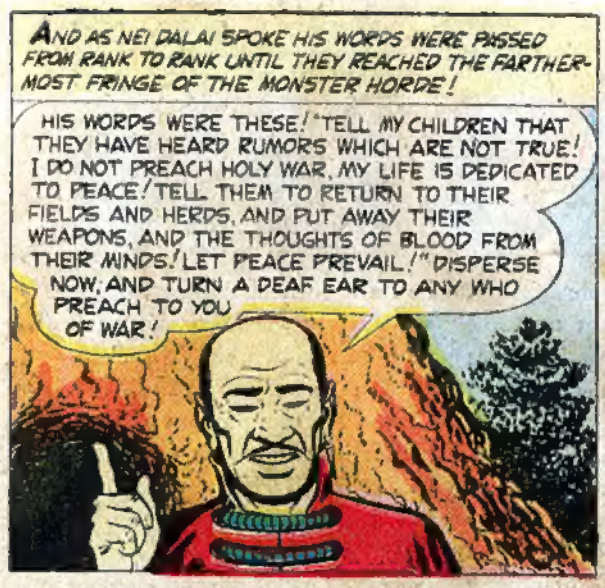
ARRRRGGHHHH!
OH!··MY CHEST ···BURNING!
THE TWO LUCKIEST SNAP SHOTS I EVER MADE IN MY LIFE!
BANG

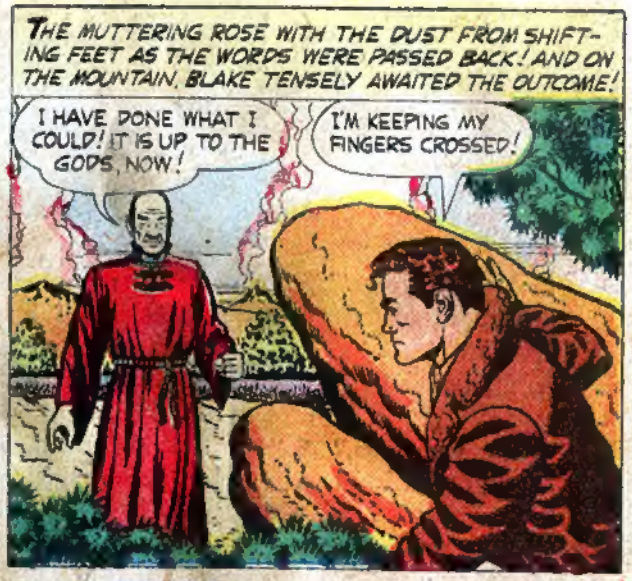
WHERE IS MY BROTHER···WHERE IS THE GREAT LLAMA···TELL ME!
DEAD! WE···KILLED HIM! YOU'RE TOO LATE···IF THE GREAT LLAMA DOESN'T APPEAR AT···AT DAWN TO SPEAK TO THEM···PREACH HOLY WAR···THEY WILL START ON THE TRAIL OF BLOOD ANY-WAY! HA, HA, HA, HARRRGGGHHH!

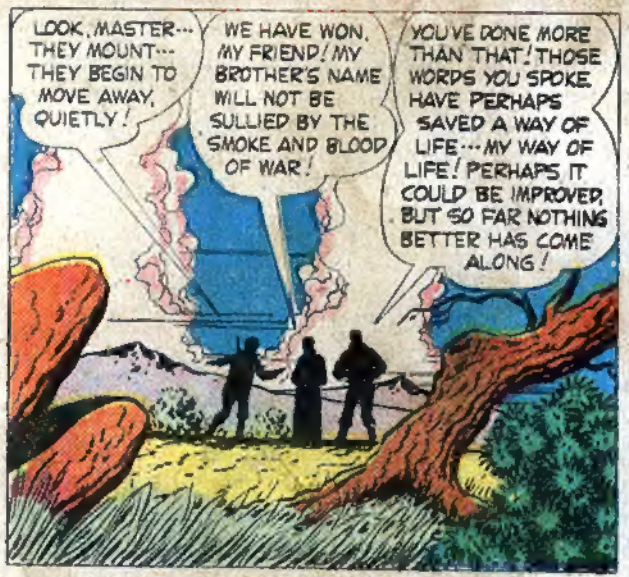
HOLY MASTER, DAWN COMES AND THE MULTITUDE IS STIRRING··· LOOKING UP HERE FOR THE APPEARANCE OF THE GREAT LLAMA!
MY BROTHER, THAT GOOD AND HOLY MAN, DEAD ···AND HIS NAME TO BE USED AS THE SPARK THAT WILL SET ALL THE WORLD AFLAME··· AND NO WAY TO STOP IT!
WAIT! WE'RE NOT LICKED YET! THERE MAY STILL BE A WAY!

LISTEN, NEI DALAI! YOUR BROTHER IS DEAD···NOW YOU MUST TAKE HIS PLACE AS THE GREAT LLAMA! SPEAK TO THE PEOPLE···MAKE THEM TURN THEIR FACES FROM WAR AS YOUR BROTHER WOULD WISH! YOU CAN DO IT, AND THEY WILL BELIEVE YOU! YOU MUST DO IT!
YOU HAVE GIVEN ME HOPE, MY FRIEND··· I WILL TRY!


OVER THAT HUGE MULTITUDE A HUSH FELL, AS EVERY EYE TURNED TOWARD THE GAUNT FIGURE THAT APPEARED AMONG THE ROCKS WITH HANDS UPRAISED AS THOUGH SEEKING STRENGTH FROM HEAVEN!
MY CHILDREN, HEAR ME! MY BROTHER, THE GREAT LLAMA IS DEAD, AND I, NEI DALAI, SHALL BECOME GREAT LLAMA IN HIS PLACE! HEAR FROM ME MY HOLY BROTHER'S WISHES AND LAST WORDS!

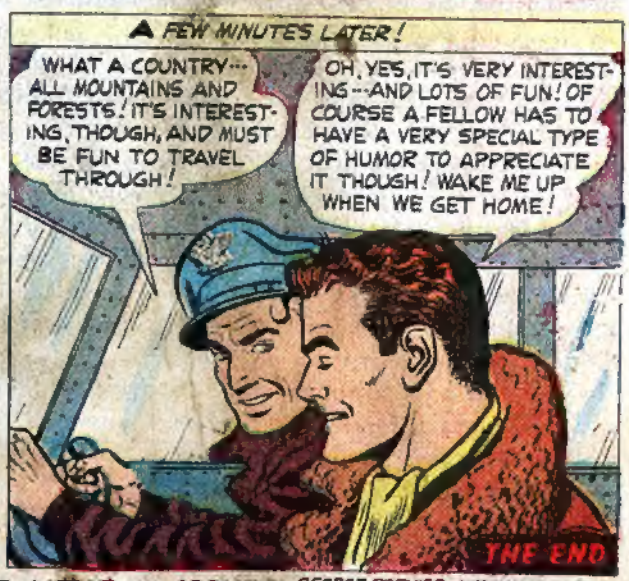

AND AS NEI DALAI SPOKE HIS WORDS WERE PASSED FROM RANK TO RANK UNTIL THEY REACHED THE FARTHERMOST FRINGE OF THE MONSTER HORDE!
HIS WORDS WERE THESE! "TELL MY CHILDREN THAT THEY HAVE HEARD RUMORS WHICH ARE NOT TRUE! I DO NOT PREACH HOLY WAR, MY LIFE IS DEDICATED TO PEACE! TELL THEM TO RETURN TO THEIR FIELDS AND HERDS, AND PUT AWAY THEIR WEAPONS, AND THE THOUGHTS OF BLOOD FROM THEIR MINDS! LET PEACE PREVAIL!" DISPERSE NOW, AND TURN A DEAF EAR TO ANY WHO PREACH TO YOU OF WAR!


THE MUTTERING ROSE WITH THE DUST FROM SHIFTING FEET AS THE WORDS WERE PASSED BACK! AND ON THE MOUNTAIN, BLAKE TENSELY AWAITED THE OUTCOME!
I HAVE DONE WHAT I COULD! IT IS UP TO THE GODS, NOW!
I'M KEEPING MY FINGERS CROSSED!


LOOK, MASTER··· THEY MOUNT··· THEY BEGIN TO MOVE AWAY, QUIETLY!
WE HAVE WON, MY FRIEND! MY BROTHER'S NAME WILL NOT BE SULLIED BY THE SMOKE AND BLOOD OF WAR!
YOU'VE DONE MORE THAN THAT! THOSE WORDS YOU SPOKE HAVE PERHAPS SAVED A WAY OF LIFE··· MY WAY OF LIFE! PERHAPS IT COULD BE IMPROVED, BUT SO FAR NOTHING BETTER HAS COME ALONG!

A PLANE!
AMERICAN! IT MUST HAVE BEEN SENT OUT FOR ME WHEN THE OTHER ONE DIDN'T RETURN! WAVE YOUR ARMS··· SCARVES··· ANYTHING! WE'LL FLAG IT DOWN ON THAT CLEAR SPACE OVER THERE!

I MUST GO, NOW! THERE ARE NO WORDS ADEQUATE FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE! ALL I CAN SAY IS··· THANKS, ON BEHALF OF MY GOVERNMENT AND THE REST OF THE FREE WORLD!
TO YOU SHOULD GO THE THANKS, MY SON, FOR WITHOUT YOU, THIS ALL WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE! WHILE THE LANDS OF FREEDOM BREED MEN LIKE YOU, THEIR FLAGS WILL ALWAYS FLY HIGH AND PROUD! GO WITH THE GODS, MY FRIEND!
7


A FEW MINUTES LATER!
WHAT A COUNTRY··· ALL MOUNTAINS AND FORESTS! IT'S INTERESTING, THOUGH, AND MUST BE FUN TO TRAVEL THROUGH!
OH, YES, IT'S VERY INTERESTING··· AND LOTS OF FUN! OF COURSE A FELLOW HAS TO HAVE A VERY SPECIAL TYPE OF HUMOR TO APPRECIATE IT THOUGH! WAKE ME UP WHEN WE GET HOME!
THE END

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TREASON

"I SAY it's *murder!*" Jerry Carter turned from his pretty wife and leaned over the ship's rail to stare half-angrily at the water.

"I agree with you," Sally said as she put her hand on his arm. "But I don't agree that Doctor Keller had anything to do with it."

"Then why is he so hush-hush about his business with the guy that was killed?"

"Because both Doctor Keller and Lucien Flandin were working on atomic fission. They're scientists and you couldn't expect them to go on a coast-to-coast hook-up every time they met to talk."

"Aw, all I know is that Lucien Flandin is dead and Doctor Keller was the last man to see him alive," Jerry said as he ran his hand through his dark hair.

Jerry was silent for a few minutes and Sally knew that her husband was thinking up more questions to heave at her. He always worked that way, peppering her with all kinds of interrogations about a case, and from her answers he'd either get confirmation or a clash of conclusions.

Still looking into the water Jerry said softly, "I don't savvy why Doc Keller keeps mum on his meetings with Flandin in Paris. If Captain Jones hadn't told us, we never would have known about it."

"Maybe Keller isn't supposed to tell anyone that the U. S. and the French are holding pow-wows on atomic fission. The enemy could put two and two together on info like that and come up with something big."

"Yeah, and then maybe Keller *wasn't* supposed to meet Flandin at all. Maybe Keller *doesn't* want Uncle Sam to know that he's been so chummy with the Frenchman."

"Gosh, Jerry, I never thought of that. Maybe you've got something there," Sally conceded.

"Come on, the third degree is over, Sally," Jerry smiled and slid his arm around his wife. "Let's go have a talk with Captain Jones . . . I've got another brain storm."

Jerry Carter and Sally were returning from a vacation aboard the *S.S. Algonquin* and it was a grand vacation . . . until Lucien Flandin, the famous French physicist, was found murdered in his cabin. The news put the jitters on everybody aboard. Jerry introduced himself to Captain Jones, right after the murder, as a detective and took over the responsibility of investigation.

"What can I do for you, Mr. Carter?" the captain asked as soon as Jerry and his wife were seated in the captain's luxurious cabin.

"I have a hunch, Captain Jones," answered Jerry. "A wild one . . . but it may solve this murder case. I am still under the impression that Doctor Keller had a great deal to do with the killing, and just because he's a big wheel scientist, doing government work, doesn't mean that he's above suspicion."

"We must be careful, Mr. Carter. Accusing a man of Doctor Keller's stature is very risky . . . especially if the accusation is *murder!*

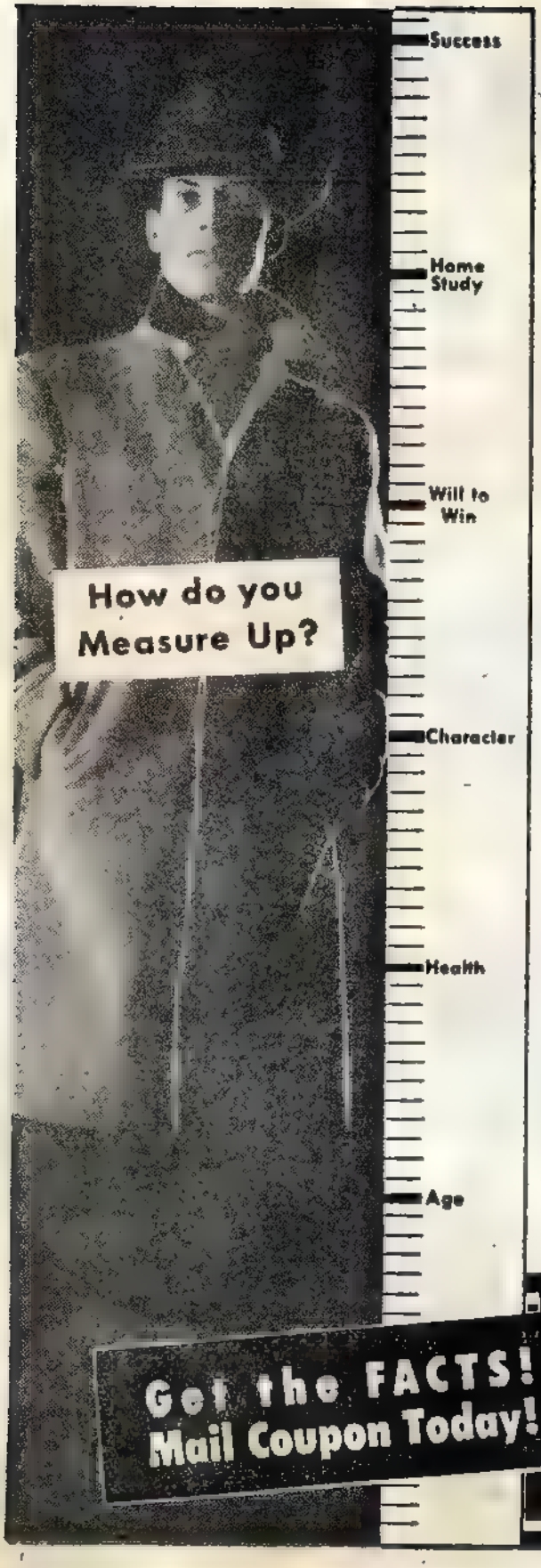
Jerry talked on as if he hadn't heard what Captain Jones had said. "I want to pass word around that Flandin had entrusted some very important atomic secrets to another party, a Frenchman if possible, and then I'd like to have that Frenchman tailed. An attempt may be made on his life . . . and if there is one made, we'll be there to grab the killers."

"The same one, or ones, who murdered Flandin, huh?" the captain asked as Jerry's plan began to sink into his mind.

"Exactly. I think that Keller, willingly or not, passed some hot secrets to Flandin and then found out that Flandin was going to sell the info to the Reds. Keller knew that if that happened, he himself, would be accused of being a spy. For his own protection, he killed Flandin. Now, if we can get word to Keller, without arousing suspicion, that before Flandin was murdered he blurted out some very important secrets to another party, well, Keller *may* try to throttle that info, too. Will you help me, Captain Jones?"

"Certainly," the captain was enthusiastic. "I'll call Monsieur Rodin down here, and I'll do it over the public address sys-

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT STORY...



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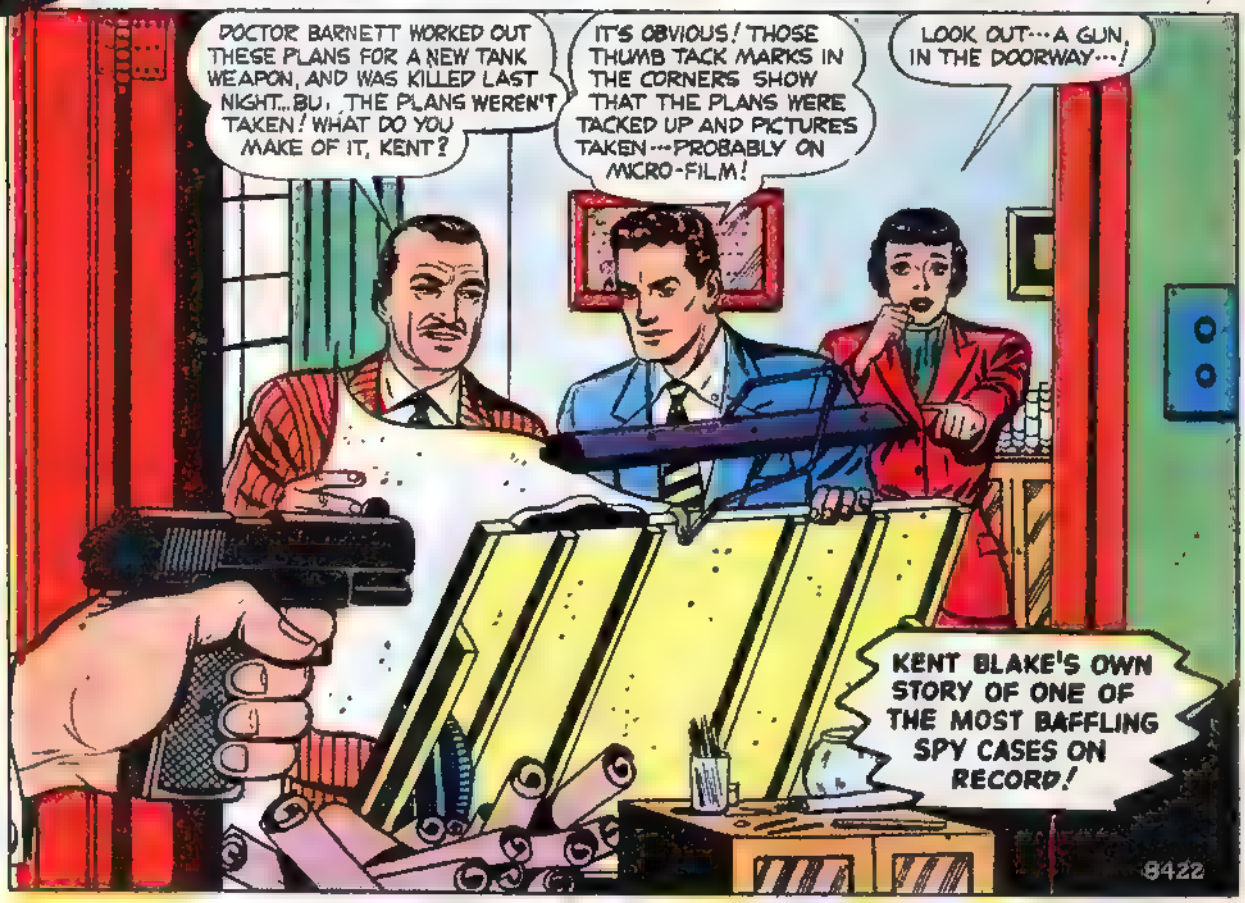
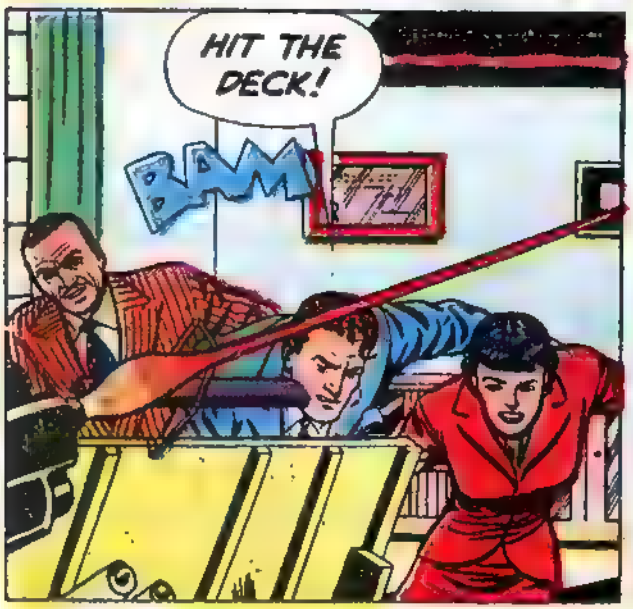
THE STOLEN PLANS

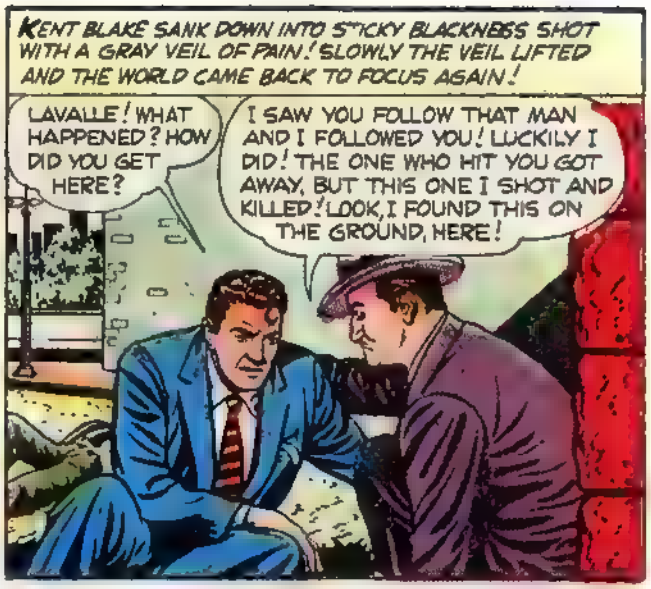

DOCTOR BARNETT WORKED OUT THESE PLANS FOR A NEW TANK WEAPON, AND WAS KILLED LAST NIGHT...BU. THE PLANS WEREN'T TAKEN! WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF IT, KENT?
IT'S OBVIOUS! THOSE THUMB TACK MARKS IN THE CORNERS SHOW THAT THE PLANS WERE TACKED UP AND PICTURES TAKEN---PROBABLY ON MICRO-FILM!
LOOK OUT---A GUN, IN THE DOORWAY---!
KENT BLAKE'S OWN STORY OF ONE OF THE MOST BAFFLING SPY CASES ON RECORD!
8422



A FEW MINUTES LATER!
WHOEVER HE IS GOT AWAY! I THINK THAT BULLET WAS MEANT FOR YOU, MISS CORBETT! PERHAPS YOU SAW SOMETHING LAST NIGHT WHEN YOUR EMPLOYER WAS MURDERED THAT WOULD IDENTIFY THE KILLER!
NO, ALL I SAW WAS A FIGURE RUNNING AWAY FROM THE HOUSE···THEN I CAME IN AND FOUND DOCTOR BARNETT DEAD!
THIS MUST ALL BE QUITE A SHOCK TO YOU, MISS CORBETT! HAVE A CIGARETTE TO CALM YOUR NERVES!
NO THANK YOU, I DON'T SMOKE!
LET'S GET BACK TO THE OFFICE, KENT! I'LL STAKE SOME MEN OUTSIDE TO KEEP AN EYE ON THIS PLACE, MISS CORBETT! YOU'LL BE SAFE!
LATER, IN THE PENTAGON BUILDING, IN THE OFFICE OF KRUGER, HEAD OF THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT, KENT BLAKE, AMERICA'S TOP SECRET AGENT, GETS MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE STOLEN PLANS!
WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT THIS IS THE WORK OF A FAMOUS INTERNATIONAL SPY WHO HAS BEEN OPERATING IN FRANCE! HE MUST HAVE CROSSED OVER RECENTLY! WE DON'T KNOW WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE, BUT HERE'S A DOSSIER ON HIS ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST TWO YEARS!
ACTIVE LITTLE DEVIL, ISN'T HE?
HE IS KNOWN ONLY AS, THE CAT, AND IS NOW IN THE PAY OF THE COMMUNISTS! I'VE CLOSED EVERY EXIT TO BOTTLE HIM UP IN THIS COUNTRY UNTIL WE GET BACK THE MICRO-FILMS OF THOSE PLANS!
YOU DON'T KNOW HIS NAME OR WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE! THIS WILL BE LIKE LOOKING FOR A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK!
THERE IS A PAUL LAVALLE HERE MR. KRUGER!
SHOW HIM IN! KENT, YOU'LL HAVE HELP LOOKING FOR THAT NEEDLE IN THE HAYSTACK! THIS CAT SPY IS WANTED IN FRANCE TOO, AND PAUL LAVALLE IS AN AGENT OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT! YOU'LL WORK WITH HIM!
KENT BLAKE THIS IS PAUL LAVALLE!
IT IS A PLEASURE, MONSIEUR TO WORK WITH SO DISTINGUISHED AN AGENT! WHEN AND WHERE DO WE BEGIN?
SINCE WE HAVE NO LEADS ALL WE CAN DO IS WATCH A HOTEL IN DOWNTOWN WASHINGTON WHERE WE KNOW MANY FOREIGN AGENTS HANG OUT! WITH THE COUNTRY BOTTLED UP THE CAT MAY PASS THE FILMS ON TO SOMEONE WHO CAN GET OUT!
FOR A WEEK, KENT AND LAVALLE KEPT CLOSE WATCH ON THE HOTEL METROPOLE, BUT NOTHING HAPPENED!
MONSIEUR BLAKE, I THINK THIS IS WHAT YOU CALL, WILD GOOSE CHASE!
IT WAS A STAB IN THE DARK, I'LL ADMIT, BUT···WAIT··THAT MAN GOING IN···HE'S ONE OF THE TOP COMMUNIST AGENTS IN AMERICA! YOU STAY HERE, I'M GOING IN THERE AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS! MAYBE THIS IS A BREAK!

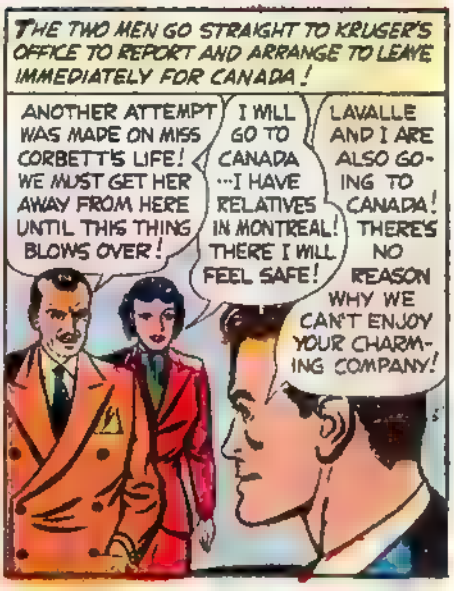
QUICKLY KENT FOLLOWED THE COMMIE AGENT INTO THE BUILDING!
IT'S A GOOD THING WE KNOW WHO THESE FOREIGN AGENTS ARE, AND LET THEM GO FREE! IN THAT WAY WE CAN WATCH THEM AND SEE WHO THEY CONTACT---AND PICK THEM UP WHENEVER IT'S NECESSARY!
I GUESS MY HUNCH WAS WRONG, NOBODY HAS COME NEAR ENOUGH TO PASS HIM ANYTHING! ALL HE'S DONE IS BUY CIGARETTES!
WAIT A MINUTE! MAYBE THIS ISN'T AS INNOCENT AS IT SEEMS! HE DIDN'T PAY FOR THOSE CIGARETTES! THAT WOULD BE AN EASY WAY TO PASS MICRO-FILM ON! I'M GOING TO FOLLOW HIM!
KENT KEPT THE MAN IN EASY SIGHT AS HE HEADED DOWN THE STREET AND THROUGH A TUNNEL!
HE'S GOING IN THE TUNNEL! I'LL CLOSE IN SO I DON'T LOSE HIM! I WISH I HAD TIME TO WARN LAVALLE---WE COULD HAVE BOTTLED HIM UP IN THIS TUNNEL!
HAH, YOU CAPITALISTIC DOG ---YOU THINK YOU CAN TRAP THE CAT THROUGH ME? I'LL FIX YOU!
BAM
BAM
YOU OVERESTIMATE YOURSELF---LIKE ALL OF YOUR KIND, YOU COMMIE MURDERER!
OHHHHHHHHH!
BAM
BAM
NOW I THINK I'LL RELIEVE YOU OF THOSE CIGARETTES! I COULD USE ONE TO CALM MY NERVES---AND I CAN USE WHAT'S PROBABLY WRAPPED IN THEM TO CALM MY BOSS, AND THE REST OF THE TOP BRASS!
YOU GOT ME, BUT YOU WILL NEVER GET THE FILMS BACK TO YOUR STUPID COUNTRYMEN ALIVE ---AND YOU WILL NEVER GET THE CAT!

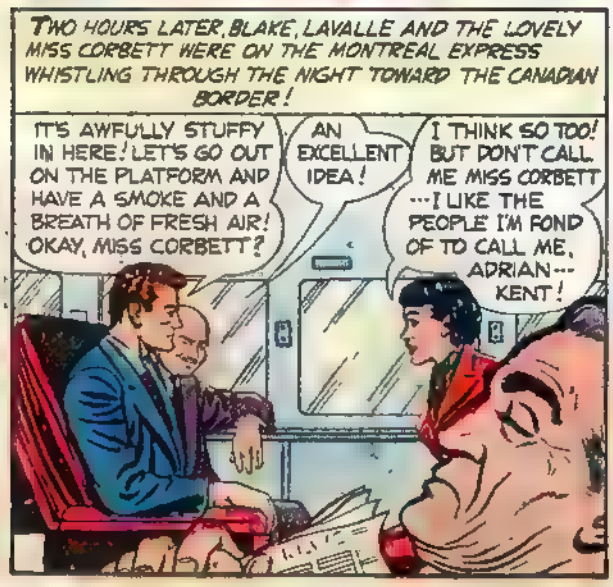
UGHHH!


KENT BLAKE SANK DOWN INTO STICKY BLACKNESS SHOT WITH A GRAY VEIL OF PAIN! SLOWLY THE VEIL LIFTED AND THE WORLD CAME BACK TO FOCUS AGAIN!
LAVALLE! WHAT HAPPENED? HOW DID YOU GET HERE?
I SAW YOU FOLLOW THAT MAN AND I FOLLOWED YOU! LUCKILY I DID! THE ONE WHO HIT YOU GOT AWAY, BUT THIS ONE I SHOT AND KILLED! LOOK, I FOUND THIS ON THE GROUND, HERE!

A TICKET TO CANADA! THE CAT MUST'VE CROSSED OVER, AND THE MAN WHO STRUCK ME AND GOT AWAY IS TAKING THE MICRO-FILMS TO HIM THERE! THE FILMS WERE IN A PACKAGE OF CIGARETTES, I'M PRETTY SURE! LET'S GET BACK TO THE OFFICE!
OUI! I SAW A PACKAGE OF CIGARETTES IN THE HAND OF THE ONE WHO GOT AWAY!

WE'LL GO TO CANADA IMMEDIATELY, AND WATCH FOR THE AGENT FROM HERE TO CROSS AND CONTACT THE CAT IN MONTREAL! THEY FIGURE IT WILL BE EASIER TO GET A SAILING OUT OF CANADA THEN THE U.S.!
THERE IS A CAB! TAXI! TAXI!


THE TWO MEN GO STRAIGHT TO KRUGER'S OFFICE TO REPORT AND ARRANGE TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY FOR CANADA!
ANOTHER ATTEMPT WAS MADE ON MISS CORBETT'S LIFE! WE MUST GET HER AWAY FROM HERE UNTIL THIS THING BLOWS OVER!
I WILL GO TO CANADA ...I HAVE RELATIVES IN MONTREAL! THERE I WILL FEEL SAFE!
LAVALLE AND I ARE ALSO GOING TO CANADA! THERE'S NO REASON WHY WE CAN'T ENJOY YOUR CHARMING COMPANY!

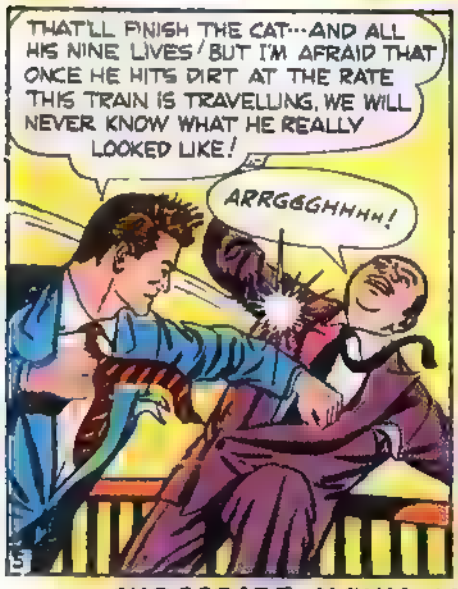

TWO HOURS LATER, BLAKE, LAVALLE AND THE LOVELY MISS CORBETT WERE ON THE MONTREAL EXPRESS WHISTLING THROUGH THE NIGHT TOWARD THE CANADIAN BORDER!
IT'S AWFULLY STUFFY IN HERE! LET'S GO OUT ON THE PLATFORM AND HAVE A SMOKE AND A BREATH OF FRESH AIR! OKAY, MISS CORBETT?
AN EXCELLENT IDEA!
I THINK SO TOO! BUT DON'T CALL ME MISS CORBETT ...I LIKE THE PEOPLE I'M FOND OF TO CALL ME, ADRIAN--- KENT!

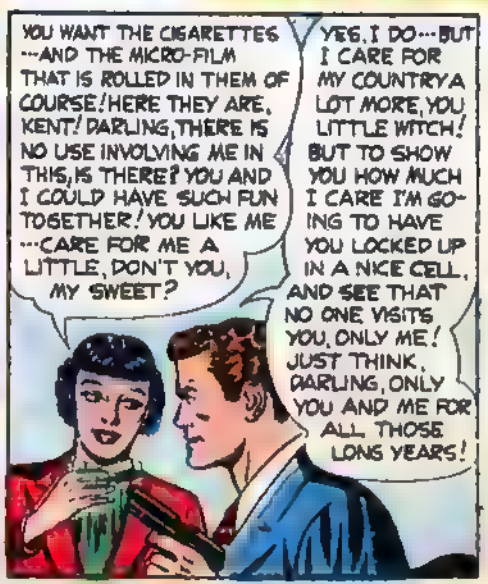
WILL YOU HAVE A... OH, I FORGOT, YOU DON'T SMOKE!
ER...NO, I DON'T!

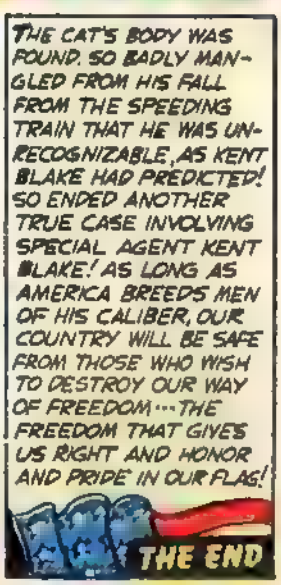
THEN WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THIS PACK IN YOUR PURSE? IF YOU DON'T MIND I'D LIKE TO TRY ONE OF YOUR BRAND!
BUT I DO MIND! GIVE ME THAT PACK!

YOU HEARD THE LADY··· GIVE HER BACK HER CIGARETTES!
SO THAT'S THE WAY IT IS! YOU'RE THE CAT, LAVALLE, AND SHE'S YOUR ACCOMPLICE! NO WONDER IT WAS SO EASY FOR YOU TO GET FILMS OF THE PLANS! YOU WERE THE ONE WHO HIT ME OVER THE HEAD IN THE TUNNEL AND TOOK THE PLANS, AND KILLED YOUR OWN MAN TO MAKE IT LOOK GOOD!

THAT IS RIGHT! I KILLED THE REAL LAVALLE ON THE BOAT COMING OVER! AND TOOK HIS CREDENTIALS, AND WITH MAKE-UP AND DISGUISE ASSUMED HIS PLACE! THIS WAS CLEVER, DON'T YOU THINK, USING YOU, AN ACCREDITED S.S. AGENT TO GUIDE US TO SAFETY, THROUGH MY LITTLE RUSE WITH THE MONTREAL TRAIN TICKETS?
VERY CLEVER! WELL HERE'S YOUR CIGARETTES WITH THE FILMS!


THAT'LL FINISH THE CAT···AND ALL HIS NINE LIVES! BUT I'M AFRAID THAT ONCE HE HITS DIRT AT THE RATE THIS TRAIN IS TRAVELLING, WE WILL NEVER KNOW WHAT HE REALLY LOOKED LIKE!
ARRGGGHHHH!


YOU WANT THE CIGARETTES ···AND THE MICRO-FILM THAT IS ROLLED IN THEM OF COURSE! HERE THEY ARE, KENT! DARLING, THERE IS NO USE INVOLVING ME IN THIS, IS THERE? YOU AND I COULD HAVE SUCH FUN TOGETHER! YOU LIKE ME ···CARE FOR ME A LITTLE, DON'T YOU, MY SWEET?
YES, I DO···BUT I CARE FOR MY COUNTRY A LOT MORE, YOU LITTLE WITCH! BUT TO SHOW YOU HOW MUCH I CARE I'M GOING TO HAVE YOU LOCKED UP IN A NICE CELL, AND SEE THAT NO ONE VISITS YOU, ONLY ME! JUST THINK, DARLING, ONLY YOU AND ME FOR ALL THOSE LONG YEARS!


THE CAT'S BODY WAS FOUND, SO BADLY MANGLED FROM HIS FALL FROM THE SPEEDING TRAIN THAT HE WAS UNRECOGNIZABLE, AS KENT BLAKE HAD PREDICTED! SO ENDED ANOTHER TRUE CASE INVOLVING SPECIAL AGENT KENT BLAKE! AS LONG AS AMERICA BREEDS MEN OF HIS CALIBER, OUR COUNTRY WILL BE SAFE FROM THOSE WHO WISH TO DESTROY OUR WAY OF FREEDOM···THE FREEDOM THAT GIVES US RIGHT AND HONOR AND PRIDE IN OUR FLAG!
THE END

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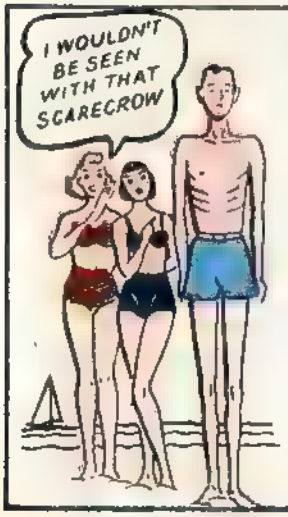

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tem so that everyone will be able to hear it and start the rumors flying. That may help to bring Doctor Keller out."

"Thanks, Captain," Jerry extended his hand, "and tell Rodin that we'll see to it that nothing happens to him."

Back in their own cabin, Sally stretched out on the bed and relaxed. Jerry picked up the phone and called Second Mate Anderson and gave him instructions to have a guard watch Monsieur Rodin, twenty-four hours a day. If any attempt was made on Rodin's life, it would have to be done on board ship and before the ship docked.

"Jerry, you're a genius," Sally told him as soon as Jerry hung up the receiver. "Now, if Keller *is* guilty, we have a very good chance of nabbing him."

"It's easy to see that my genius isn't catching, Sally darling," Jerry answered. "Because just supposing that Keller *isn't* guilty, has it occurred to you *who* might be the murder's *next victim?*"

"Huh?" Sally propped herself up in bed. "I never thought of that, Jerry."

"That's obvious. Somebody killed one atomic scientist. If it wasn't Keller . . . then the next victim might very well be . . . *Keller.*"

"I repeat, Jerry . . . *you are a genius.*"

Jerry raised his hand. "This is no time for flattery. I'm going to put a tail on Keller, same as Anderson is doing on Rodin. Either Keller will try to dispose of Rodin or somebody will try to dispose of Keller."

That evening Jerry planted himself behind a lifeboat which was suspended across the deck from Doctor Keller's cabin. Nothing suspicious happened during the long hours Jerry watched, but then in the early hours of the morning he caught a glimpse of a furtive shadow sneaking through the darkness.

A beam of moonlight broke through the clouds and fell upon the figure for a second. During the short time Jerry saw that it was a man dressed in a long black overcoat with the collar turned up high. The mysterious figure wore a grey felt hat with the brim turned down and kept both hands in his pockets. Without stopping,

the shadow went directly to Keller's cabin door and inserted a key into the lock.

His other hand came out of the pocket and Jerry caught the golden glint of moonlight on a gun barrel. Jerry whipped out his own service revolver and yelled, "Drop that gun, mister!"

The figure wheeled and his gun blasted fire and thunder toward the spot where Jerry was concealed. Jerry dropped to his stomach and aimed his gun at the gun flashes, then pressed the trigger.

Jerry sent three shots in succession toward the shadow and a scream of pain told him that they had found their mark. He rushed out and looked down at the man lying in front of Doctor Keller's cabin door. Jerry reached down and took off the grey hat just as Doctor Keller came to the door.

"What's happened? Who is this man?" the doctor was nervous and his voice trembled.

"This is the man who killed Lucien Flandin, Doctor Keller. Your scientist friend put his secret atomic papers into the captain's safe . . . *not knowing that Captain Jones is a Red spy.* Jones kept the papers and disposed of Flandin, just as he was going to dispose of you, since only you and the dead man knew about those papers. I made Jones think that I suspected you and that gave him foolish confidence to go ahead with his plan."

"Detective Carter, I don't know how to thank you," Doctor Keller placed his hand on the young man's shoulder. "But if there's anything . . ."

"You don't have to thank me, Doctor . . . it's my job to protect men like you. I'm not a detective . . . *I'm Secret Service Agent No. 19,* assigned to see that you reach America safely."

"*Secret Service Agent?*" the Doctor almost shouted. "And I thought you were one of those wise-cracking private-eyes. Now I know that that spy will pay for his treason."

Jerry looked down at the still form of Captain Jones and said, "He has already paid the price for trying to help in the destruction of the United States of America."

THE END

HOW 'MINI-GYM' TURNS PLANT DRIP INTO SUCCESS DYNAMO

SURE, TOM, YOU'VE GOT THE BRAINS AND MORE FOR THAT SUPERVISOR'S JOB--- BUT YOU'D NEVER BE ABLE TO KEEP THOSE TOUGH HOMBRES IN THE SHOP IN LINE!
WELL, MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, BOSS!
TOM'D LOVE TO DATE YOU, BETTY! WHY DON'T YOU GIVE HIM A BREAK?
OH, TOM'S A NICE GUY, JANE --- BUT YOU KNOW HOW IT IS --- I LIKE A MAN WHO CAN DISH IT OUT AS WELL AS TAKE IT.
IT'S NO USE, SAM--- I'M MOVING ON! I'M WORSE THAN A WASH-OUT IN THIS PLANT! I CAN'T GET PROMOTIONS LIKE YOU!
TAKE IT EASY, TOM! ALL YOU NEED IS A DAILY 10-MINUTE WORK-OUT WITH 'MINI-GYM' AND YOU'LL SOON BE GIVING ME A RUN FOR MY MONEY! HERE, LOOK AT THIS AD!
GOSH, SAM, I'M A NEW MAN! AM I GLAD YOU MADE ME CLIP THAT 'MINI-GYM' COUPON! WATCH ME DO JOE BONOMO'S TRICKY EXERCISE 10 AGAIN! IT'S A KILLER-DILLER!
GO TO IT, KID! I ALWAYS KNEW YOU HAD THE STUFF, BUT IT TAKES 'MINI-GYM' TO GIVE A MAN TOP TRAINING!
NEXT TIME, FELLER, YOU'D BETTER THINK FIRST BEFORE YOU START SHOOTING OFF YOUR MOUTH AT ME!
OH, TOM, YOU'RE WONDERFUL!
HONEST, TOM, I--I DIDN'T MEAN NOTHING!
TWO MONTHS LATER...
THAT SUPERVISOR'S JOB IS YOURS, TOM! AND I DON'T HAVE TO WISH YOU LUCK! YOU'VE MADE YOURSELF INTO A REAL "COMER" WHO MAKES HIS OWN LUCK!
THANKS, BOSS! I'LL MAKE GOOD... AND HOW!

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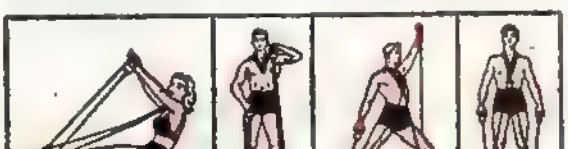

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World-famous, professional strong man himself, Joe Bonomo knows what it takes to build the physically perfect man! (Yes, and woman, too!) And he's put all his hint hand knowledge into the design of this terrific new exerciser! So in 'MINI-GYM' you've got *everything* it takes for genuine *professional* body building!

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Though 'MINI-GYM' is plenty tough for the professional athlete, it's *easy* enough to be handled . . . and enjoyed . . . by any teen-age girl or small woman. How come? Because Joe Bonomo designed 'MINI-GYM' for girls and women, too! Especially those who want to develop real pep, alluring curves and a super gorgeous figure! No wonder gals everywhere go for 'MINI-GYM' in a big, BIG way!

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RUSH ME one complete 'MINI-GYM', MODEL _____ with 66-page Joe Bonomo Course Book. I will deposit $3.95, plus postage, with postman. If I am not satisfied in *every* way, I may return 'MINI-GYM' and Book within 10 days for full refund.

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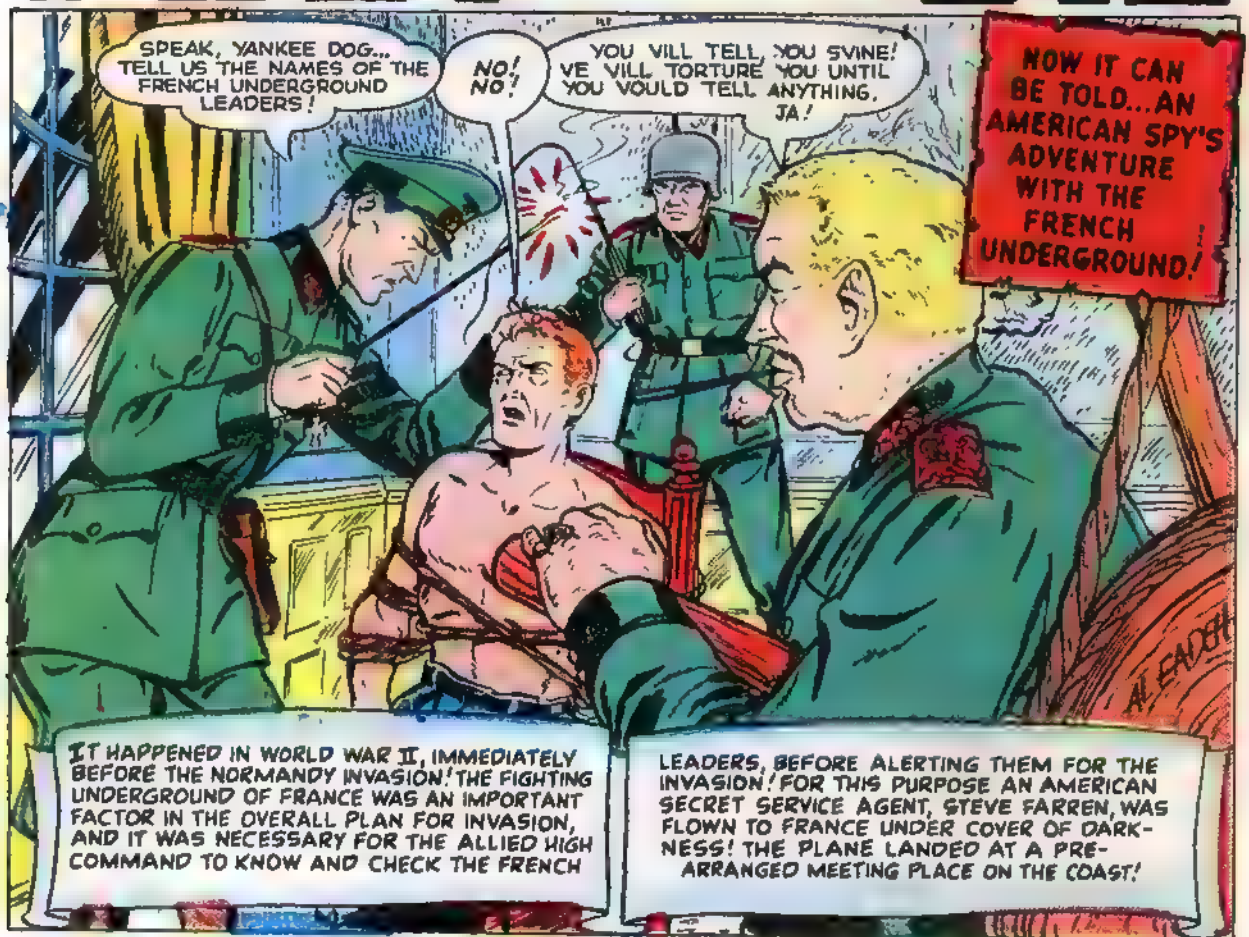
I enclose $3.95. You pay postage. Same money-back guarantee. (Canadian and Foreign Orders, $4.95. Cash with orders.)

THE MAN WHO HAD TO DIE


SPEAK, YANKEE DOG... TELL US THE NAMES OF THE FRENCH UNDERGROUND LEADERS!
NO! NO!
YOU VILL TELL, YOU SVINE! VE VILL TORTURE YOU UNTIL YOU VOULD TELL ANYTHING, JA!
NOW IT CAN BE TOLD...AN AMERICAN SPY'S ADVENTURE WITH THE FRENCH UNDERGROUND!
AL FAGIN
IT HAPPENED IN WORLD WAR II, IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE NORMANDY INVASION! THE FIGHTING UNDERGROUND OF FRANCE WAS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE OVERALL PLAN FOR INVASION, AND IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE ALLIED HIGH COMMAND TO KNOW AND CHECK THE FRENCH
LEADERS, BEFORE ALERTING THEM FOR THE INVASION! FOR THIS PURPOSE AN AMERICAN SECRET SERVICE AGENT, STEVE FARREN, WAS FLOWN TO FRANCE UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS! THE PLANE LANDED AT A PRE-ARRANGED MEETING PLACE ON THE COAST!
8122

VOILÀ! HERE IT COMES...THE PLANE WITH THE AMERICAN!
SHINE A LIGHT TO GUIDE IT IN, JULES! LET US HOPE THE NAZI PIGS IN THE CHATEAU DO NOT SEE IT!

WELCOME TO FRANCE, MONSIEUR! IT IS HOPED MANY MORE OF YOUR COUNTRYMEN WILL SOON FOLLOW!
WHAT WE DO TONIGHT MIGHT HELP TO MAKE THAT COME TRUE!
I'LL TAKE OFF, FARREN, AND BE BACK AT ONE O'CLOCK! GOOD LUCK!

YOU HAVE THE LISTS OF YOUR LEADERS AND HOW TO CONTACT THEM?
OUI, MONSIEUR! WE WILL GO TO THE HUT AND YOU CAN MEMORIZE THEM BEFORE YOU DESTROY THEM!
LOOK, THE CHATEAU IS BRIGHT WITH LIGHTS! THE NAZIS PLAN MORE DEVILMENT!
THAT'S THE CHATEAU WHERE THE GESTAPO ARE QUARTERED, ISN'T IT?
OUI! BUT TONIGHT IS THEIR LAST NIGHT! WE HAVE PLANTED A TIME BOMB IN THE CELLAR! AT TWELVE O'CLOCK TONIGHT IT WILL BLAST THAT CHATEAU, AND THE GESTAPO BEASTS IT HOUSES, INTO OBLIVION!
INSIDE THE LITTLE HUT, STEVE FARREN PUT HIS TRAINED MIND TO WORK, COMMITTING THE LISTS AND DATA TO MEMORY!
PIERRE PAUL DUBOIS! LEADER, DIJON! NUMBER OF MEN...
MONSIEUR, WE WILL LEAVE YOU TO YOUR LABORS! PLEASE DESTROY THE LISTS ONCE YOU HAVE COMMITTED THEM TO MEMORY! WE GO TO WAIT FOR THE CHATEAU TO BLOW UP! IN THE LIGHT FROM THE FLAMES THERE WILL BE GOOD SHOOTING FOR US!
I'LL TAKE A NAP WHEN I'VE FINISHED! I'LL PROBABLY SEE YOU ALL BEFORE I LEAVE!
TWO HOURS LATER...
WELL, THAT'S DONE! NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS WAIT FOR THE PLANE TO COME BACK, AND ONCE IN THE U.S. AGAIN, I CAN RECITE THIS LIST OF NAMES AND DATA FROM MEMORY!
SUDDENLY FLAMING, SEARING EXPLOSIONS BLASTED THE QUIETNESS WITHIN THE HUT... AS GRENADES WERE THROWN IN!
MY EYES... I'M BLINDED!
ONLY THE AMERICAN IS HERE!
GOOT! HE ISS THE VUN WE WANT!
HAH, OUR INFORMATION WAS RIGHT! FROM THIS SWINE WE WILL GET THE LISTS OF UNDERGROUND LEADERS AND SMASH THEM AND THEIR FOLLOWERS!
HE HAS BEEN BLINDED BY THE GRENADES!
SO? IT WILL BE EASIER TO MAKE HIM TALK WHEN WE GET HIM TO THE CHATEAU!
2

TWENTY MINUTES LATER, STEVE FARREN, BLINDED AND HELPLESS, WAS DRAGGED TO A ROOM IN THE CHATEAU USED FOR "QUESTIONING"! HERE, EVERY BRUTAL MEANS OF TORTURE KNOWN TO MAN WAS USED TO DRAG INFORMATION FROM THE VICTIMS OF HITLER'S SCOURGE!

NOW, TELL US THE NAMES AND DATA ON THE UNDERGROUND LEADERS! SPEAK!

THE CHATEAU, THEY SAID... AND THE MAQUIS HAVE PLANTED A BOMB HERE TO GO OFF AT TWELVE! IF I CAN ONLY HOLD OFF 'UNTIL THEN!

THEY PLIED THEIR TRADE...THE TERRIBLE TORTURES THEY KNEW SO WELL! ON THE WALL THERE HUNG A CLOCK, AND STEVE FARREN HEARD THE MINUTES TICK AWAY BUT HIS BLINDED EYES COULD NOT SEE THE TIME THAT SO SLOWLY PASSED!

SPEAK, YOU FOOL! TELL US WHAT WE WANT TO KNOW! YOU ARE BLIND, AND YOU WILL BE A TOTAL CRIPPLE IF YOU LIVE AFTER THIS! SPEAK AND WE WILL STOP!

NO!

YOU WILL SPEAK EVENTUALLY...EVERY MAN HAS HIS LIMITS OF ENDURANCE TO PAIN! SPEAK NOW, AND SAVE YOURSELF MORE AGONY!

HE'S RIGHT! I AM REACHING MY LIMIT!... CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE! WHAT TIME IS IT? IS IT NEAR TWELVE? IT'S GOT TO BE!

I'M CRIPPLED, BLIND, ALL THAT'S LEFT OF ME THAT MATTERS ARE THE LISTS! THE DATA IN MY BRAIN THAT THESE SKUNKS ARE TRYING TO GET! I HAVE TO DIE... I MUST DIE...I WANT TO DIE! OH, PLEASE MAKE THE BOMB GO OFF AND FREE ME FROM THIS!

HE'S STILL ALIVE!

GOOT! I THINK HE HAS ALMOST REACHED HIS LIMIT! WE WILL TRY A LITTLE FIRE TO THE SOLES OF HIS FEET, AND THEN HE WILL SPEAK!

I CAN'T STAND ANY MORE... I'LL TALK...I'LL BLABBER... EVERYTHING! WHAT TIME IS IT? WHAT TIME IS IT?

AS IF IN ANSWER TO HIS SILENT CRY, THE CLOCK ON THE WALL SPOKE, CHIMING THE HOUR! AND EACH CHIME FELL UPON FARREN'S TORTURED BRAIN LIKE THE SOOTHING TOUCH OF SALVE ON AN OPEN WOUND!

NINE! TEN! ELEVEN! PLEASE LET IT BE... *TWELVE!* TWELVE O'CLOCK! TWELVE O'CLOCK!

BONG!

BONG!

BONG!

A SECOND LATER THE CHATEAU WAS BLOWN TO BITS AND ALL LIFE WITHIN ITS WALLS DESTROYED! THE FRENCH MAQUIS LEADERS, SAVED BY STEVE FARREN'S SILENCE, GAVE GREAT AID TO THE ALLIED FORCES IN THEIR HISTORIC LANDINGS IN NORMANDY, AND SAVED THE LIVES OF UNTOLD THOUSANDS OF AMERICAN FIGHTING MEN! FOR HIS COURAGE IN THE FACE OF TORTURE AND DEATH, WE PAY TRIBUTE TO SECRET AGENT, STEVE FARREN, THE MAN WHO HAD TO DIE!

THE END

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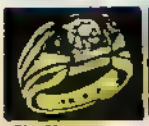
YOUR MONEY BACK QUICK IF YOU CAN BUY FOR LESS ELSEWHERE



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Super Special Quality — a sure winner! Amazing! Real massive, manly! Solid Gold Color effect. Big pseudo Diamond in centre flanked by 2 others . . . 4.98

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Large 1 Karat Stone — real sparkler! Very low priced for quick sales. Refined impressive smooth Men get this handsome ring now! Bargain! 1.98

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5 Big impressive Pseudo Diamonds of fiery brilliancy in a heavy weight Natural Gold color with $250.00 appearance. Manly! Commands respect! 3.95

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RESIST WATCH FOR ACTIVE MEN

BANG IT! DROP IT! THROW IT!

NOW 7.97

The special patented PROTECT-O-BALANCE feature every active man and boy has waited for. Now you can DROP IT, BANG IT, HIT IT and never worry. UNLIMITED GUARANTEE EXCLUSIVE OF PARTS — You never pay one red cent for skilled labor costs! Accurate Swiss jewel movement! Red Sweep Second Hand! Numerals glow at night. Rich looking silver color case. Unbreakable crystal. Modern design! Supply limited due to international crisis. Get yours NOW while you can. Spec'al price 7.97

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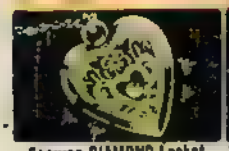
NOW 9.99



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TERRIFIC VALUE! While they last, you can have this glamour duo. DIAMOND LOCKET at an unbelievably low price! Rich solid gold color effect gold grooves. Has special frames inside for two photographs of loved ones! Complete with chain, yours for . . . 2.98

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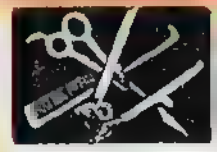

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Men's INITIAL Ring

Your own INITIAL in Raised Gold color effect. Fancy set on a BLOOD RED stone. Flanked by 2 sparkling pseudo DIAMONDS imported from Europe. Ring made in 14 Karat Rolled Gold plate, very fashionable designed rich in appearance.

WEAR IT WITH PRIDE!

Enjoy a lifetime . . . it's so handsomely masculine and distinctive! Mention letter desired and send strip of paper for size. Bargain price 2.97

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Place near window. See color changes in the magic RED as it vaguely indicates rain, storms. BLUE — fair and sunny. PURPLE — changes coming! Amazes every one! Beautiful decorative flower pot given free

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Send your whole pack only this stylish handsome combination case and lighter. Fine lighter. No more fumbling around for cigarettes or matches! Bargain price . . . 1.94

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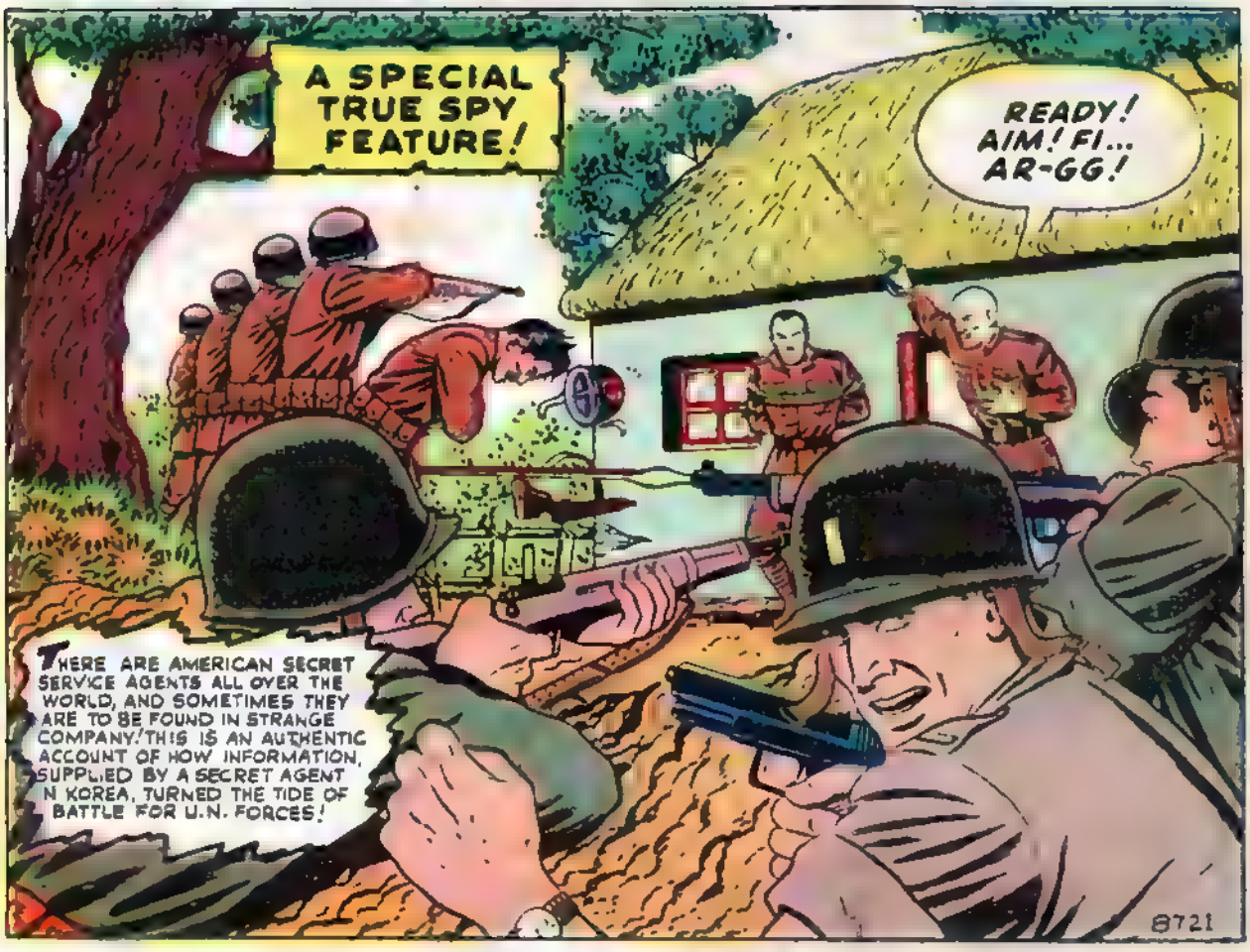
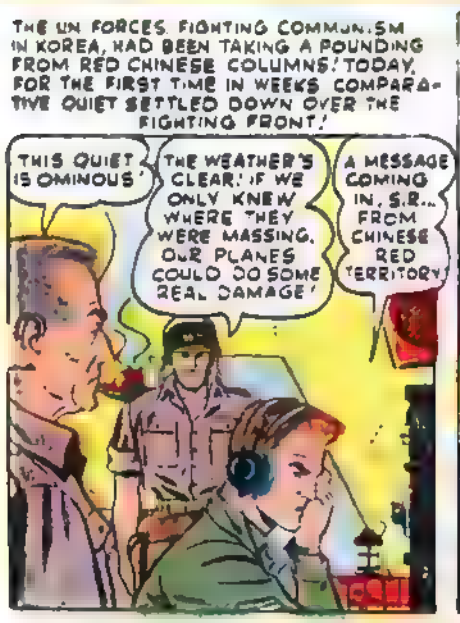
UNDER THE RED FLAG!


A SPECIAL TRUE SPY FEATURE!
READY! AIM! FI... AR-GG!
THERE ARE AMERICAN SECRET SERVICE AGENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD, AND SOMETIMES THEY ARE TO BE FOUND IN STRANGE COMPANY! THIS IS AN AUTHENTIC ACCOUNT OF HOW INFORMATION, SUPPLIED BY A SECRET AGENT IN KOREA, TURNED THE TIDE OF BATTLE FOR U.N. FORCES!
8721


THE UN FORCES FIGHTING COMMUNISM IN KOREA, HAD BEEN TAKING A POUNDING FROM RED CHINESE COLUMNS! TODAY, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN WEEKS COMPARATIVE QUIET SETTLED DOWN OVER THE FIGHTING FRONT!
THIS QUIET IS OMINOUS!
THE WEATHER'S CLEAR! IF WE ONLY KNEW WHERE THEY WERE MASSING, OUR PLANES COULD DO SOME REAL DAMAGE!
A MESSAGE COMING IN, S.R... FROM CHINESE RED TERRITORY

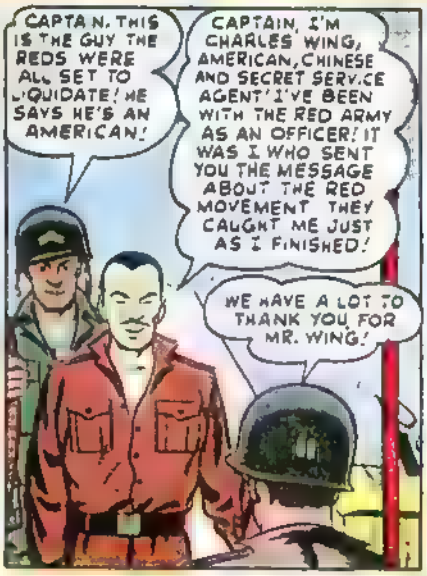
RED ARMIES MASSING FOR DRIVE SOUTH OF SEOUL! A FALSE THRUST WITH LIMITED TROOPS TO BE DIRECTED FROM INCHON TO DRAW UN FORCES AWAY AND TURN THEIR BACK TO MAIN FORCE! MAIN FORCE CAN BE AMBUSHED IN HILLS AS THEY MOVE!
SEND A SCOUT PLANE UP TO CHECK!
YES, S.R.!

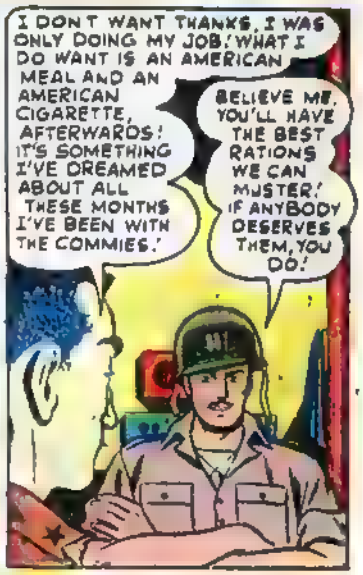
THE PLANE CIRCLED OVER SEOUL AND MADE ITS REPORT
ENEMY MASSING AS REPORTED BUT WELL CAMOUFLAGED! IF NOT FOR REPORT THE ACTIVITY WOULD HAVE GONE UNNOTICED

THE RED ARMY, THOUGH OUTNUMBERING THE U.N. FORCES 10-TO 1, WERE CAUGHT IN THE HILLS AND SMASHED!

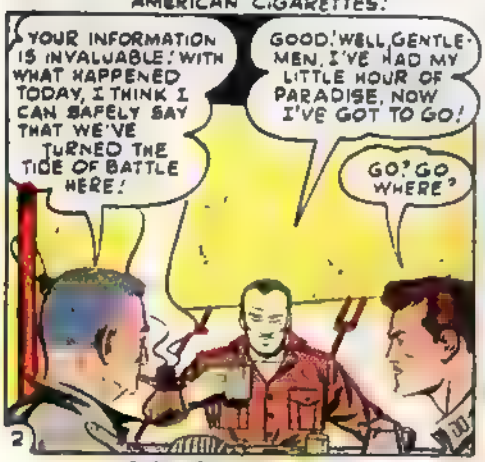
AN AMERICAN PATROL SKIRTED THE EDGES OF THE RED FORCES COMING IN BEHIND THEM, AND STRUCK AT A RED ENCAMPMENT!

BOY, AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU GUYS! IT LOOKED LIKE CURTAINS FOR ME! I'M AN AMERICAN, TOO!
YEAH? THEN WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' IN THAT UNIFORM? C'MON, YOU CAN TELL IT TO THE CAPTAIN!


CAPTAIN, THIS IS THE GUY THE REDS WERE ALL SET TO LIQUIDATE! HE SAYS HE'S AN AMERICAN!
CAPTAIN, I'M CHARLES WING, AMERICAN, CHINESE AND SECRET SERVICE AGENT! I'VE BEEN WITH THE RED ARMY AS AN OFFICER! IT WAS I WHO SENT YOU THE MESSAGE ABOUT THE RED MOVEMENT THEY CAUGHT ME JUST AS I FINISHED!
WE HAVE A LOT TO THANK YOU FOR MR. WING!


I DON'T WANT THANKS, I WAS ONLY DOING MY JOB! WHAT I DO WANT IS AN AMERICAN MEAL AND AN AMERICAN CIGARETTE, AFTERWARDS! IT'S SOMETHING I'VE DREAMED ABOUT ALL THESE MONTHS I'VE BEEN WITH THE COMMIES!
BELIEVE ME, YOU'LL HAVE THE BEST RATIONS WE CAN MUSTER! IF ANYBODY DESERVES THEM, YOU DO!

...AFTER MAKING HIS REPORT TO HEADQUARTERS ON RED MOVEMENTS, ARMS, DISPOSITION AND ALL THE IMPORTANT MILITARY INFORMATION THAT HE HAD OBSERVED, CHARLES WING SAT DOWN TO HIS AMERICAN MEAL AND AMERICAN CIGARETTES!


YOUR INFORMATION IS INVALUABLE! WITH WHAT HAPPENED TODAY, I THINK I CAN SAFELY SAY THAT WE'VE TURNED THE TIDE OF BATTLE HERE!
GOOD! WELL, GENTLEMEN, I'VE HAD MY LITTLE HOUR OF PARADISE, NOW I'VE GOT TO GO!
GO? GO WHERE?

WHY BACK THERE. BACK WITH THE REDS AGAIN! THE PEOPLE WHO KNOW I'M NOT A RED HAVE BEEN WIPED OUT BY YOUR FORCES. I HOPE SO! I'M GOING BACK AND TAKE UP WHERE I LEFT OFF, AS AN OFFICER OF THE RED CHINESE ARMY! YOU'LL BE HEARING FROM ME AGAIN... IF THEY DON'T GET WISE TO ME! GOODBYE, AND THANKS FOR A WONDERFUL MEAL!

WE THINK WE HAVE IT TOUGH! THERE'S A MAN WHO'S GIVING UP EVERYTHING TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY... LIVING IN CONSTANT DANGER OF EXPOSURE. KNOWING THAT THEY'LL EVENTUALLY UNMASK HIM! AND KILL HIM!
A BRAVE MAN! AMERICA CAN BE PROUD OF HIM, AND OF THE SERVICE HE REPRESENTS!
THE END

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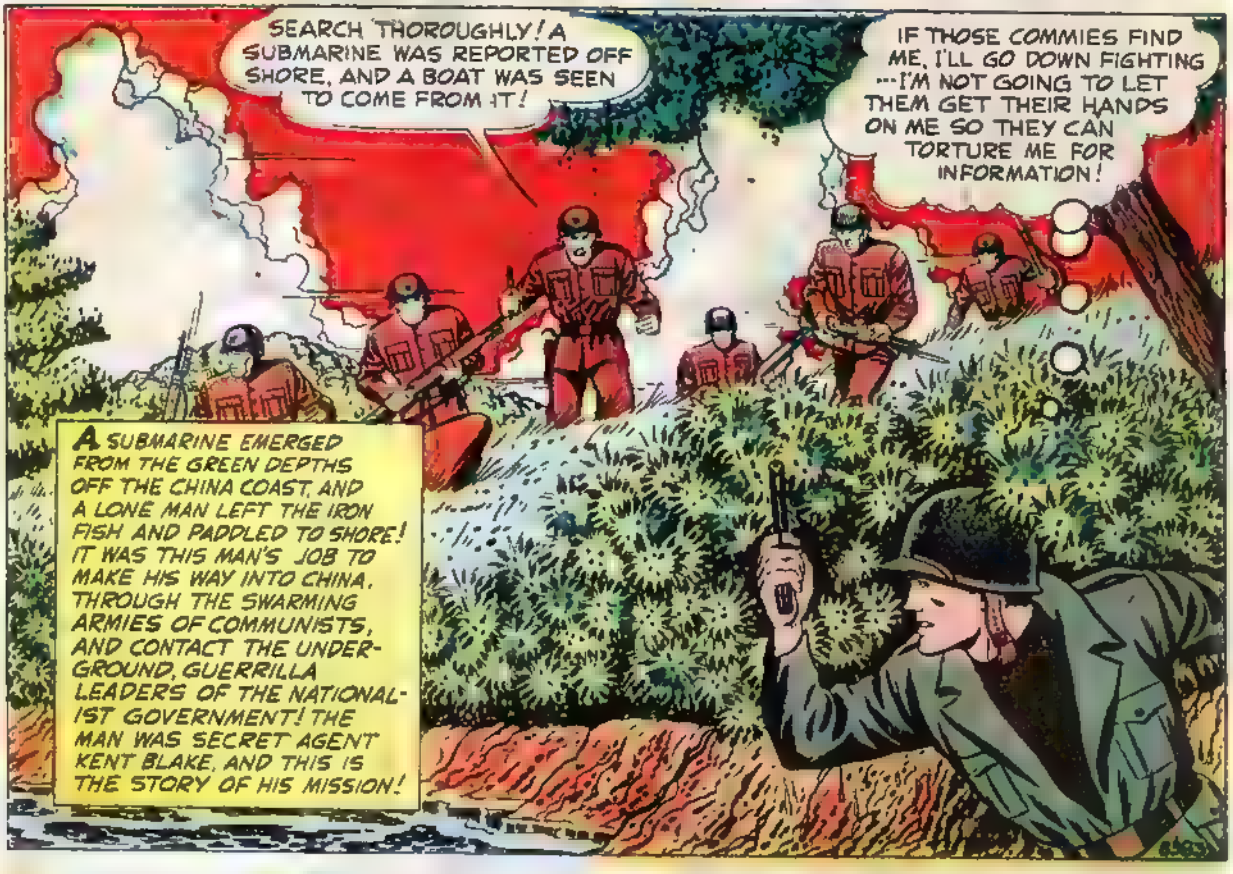
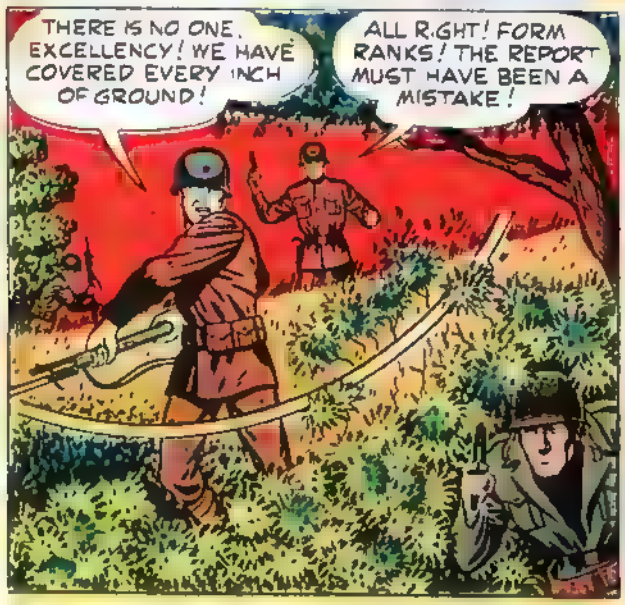
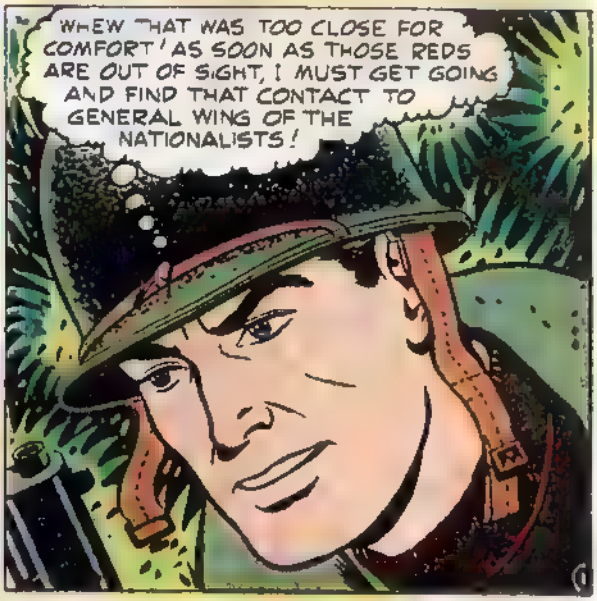
NIGHTMARE IN CHINA

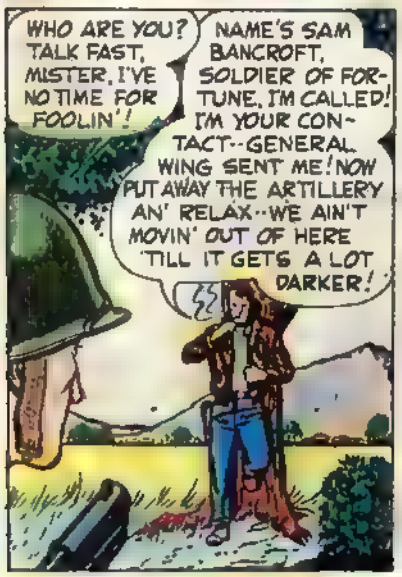

SEARCH THOROUGHLY! A SUBMARINE WAS REPORTED OFF SHORE, AND A BOAT WAS SEEN TO COME FROM IT!
IF THOSE COMMIES FIND ME, I'LL GO DOWN FIGHTING ---I'M NOT GOING TO LET THEM GET THEIR HANDS ON ME SO THEY CAN TORTURE ME FOR INFORMATION!
A SUBMARINE EMERGED FROM THE GREEN DEPTHS OFF THE CHINA COAST, AND A LONE MAN LEFT THE IRON FISH AND PADDLED TO SHORE! IT WAS THIS MAN'S JOB TO MAKE HIS WAY INTO CHINA, THROUGH THE SWARMING ARMIES OF COMMUNISTS, AND CONTACT THE UNDER-GROUND GUERRILLA LEADERS OF THE NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT! THE MAN WAS SECRET AGENT KENT BLAKE, AND THIS IS THE STORY OF HIS MISSION!

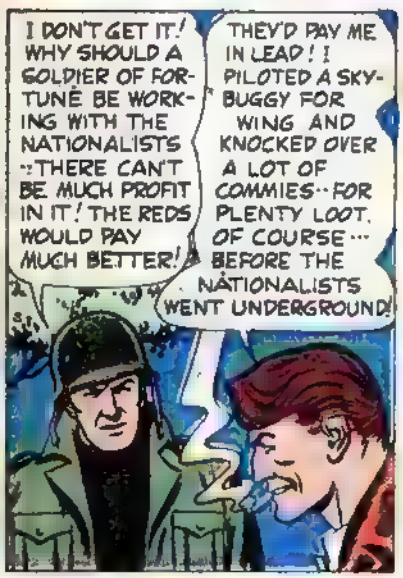



WHEW THAT WAS TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT! AS SOON AS THOSE REDS ARE OUT OF SIGHT, I MUST GET GOING AND FIND THAT CONTACT TO GENERAL WING OF THE NATIONALISTS!

I WAS TO MEET THE CONTACT MAN OPPOSITE THIS POINT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD! I HOPE HE COMES IN TIME··· I DON'T RELISH THE IDEA OF ANOTHER VISIT FROM THOSE SWORD-SWISHING REDS!

I DON'T SEE ANYONE!
TAKE IT EASY BUD, YOU'LL LAST LONGER!

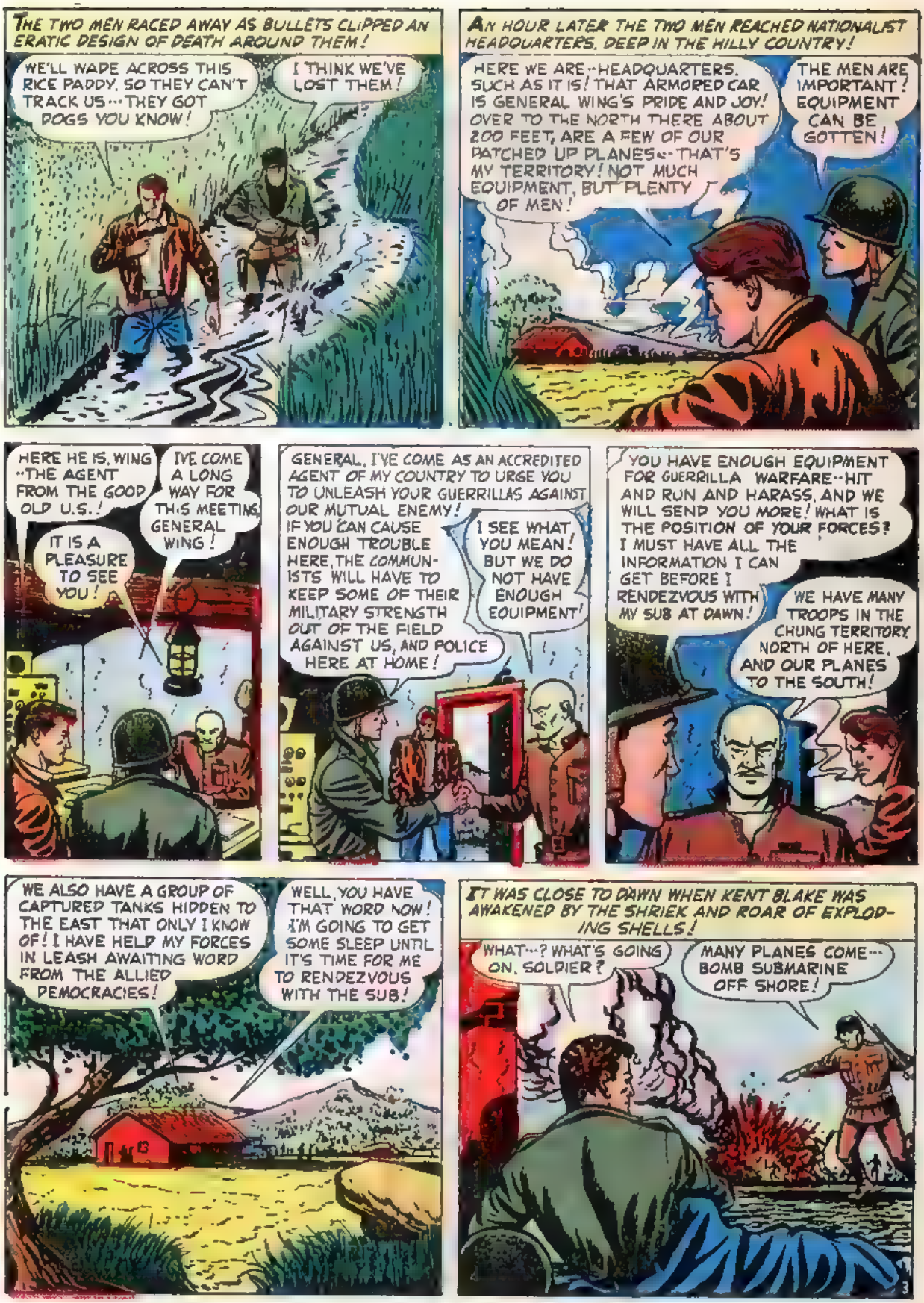

WHO ARE YOU? TALK FAST, MISTER, I'VE NO TIME FOR FOOLIN'!
NAME'S SAM BANCROFT, SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, I'M CALLED! I'M YOUR CONTACT··GENERAL WING SENT ME! NOW PUT AWAY THE ARTILLERY AN' RELAX··WE AIN'T MOVIN' OUT OF HERE 'TILL IT GETS A LOT DARKER!


I DON'T GET IT! WHY SHOULD A SOLDIER OF FORTUNE BE WORKING WITH THE NATIONALISTS ··THERE CAN'T BE MUCH PROFIT IN IT! THE REDS WOULD PAY MUCH BETTER!
THEY'D PAY ME IN LEAD! I PILOTED A SKY-BUGGY FOR WING AND KNOCKED OVER A LOT OF COMMIES··FOR PLENTY LOOT, OF COURSE··· BEFORE THE NATIONALISTS WENT UNDERGROUND!

BLAKE WAITED WITH THE LACONIC AMERICAN FREE-AGENT UNTIL DUSK HAD SETTLED!
ALL RIGHT LET'S GO··YOU FIRST!
STILL DON'T TRUST ME I SEE! WELL I CAN'T SAY I BLAME YOU! I SURE DON'T LOOK LIKE AN ANGEL AND IF I WERE IN YOUR SHOES I WOULDN'T TRUST ME EITHER! C'MON!

LOOK OUT··A PATROL OF REDS!
···TOO LATE··THEY SPOTTED US!

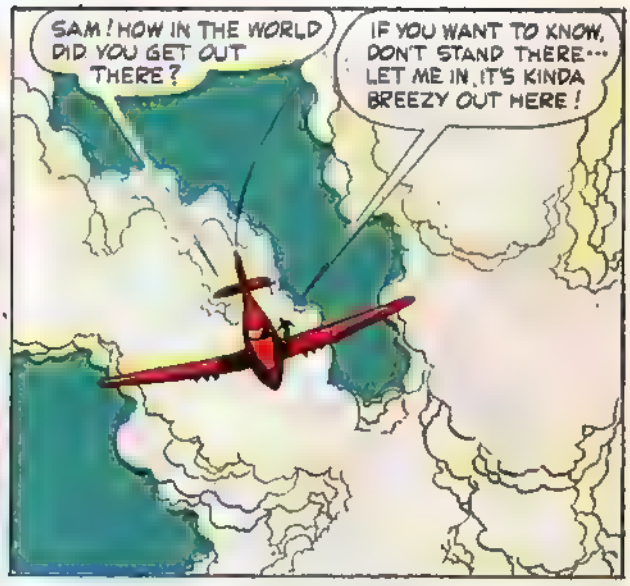
POUR IT TO THEM, MISTER, AND RUN··· THIS WAY!
I'VE GOT TO TRUST YOU BANCROFT·· FOR NOW ·· BUT MAKE ONE FALSE MOVE AND I'LL CUT YOU IN HALF WITH LEAD!

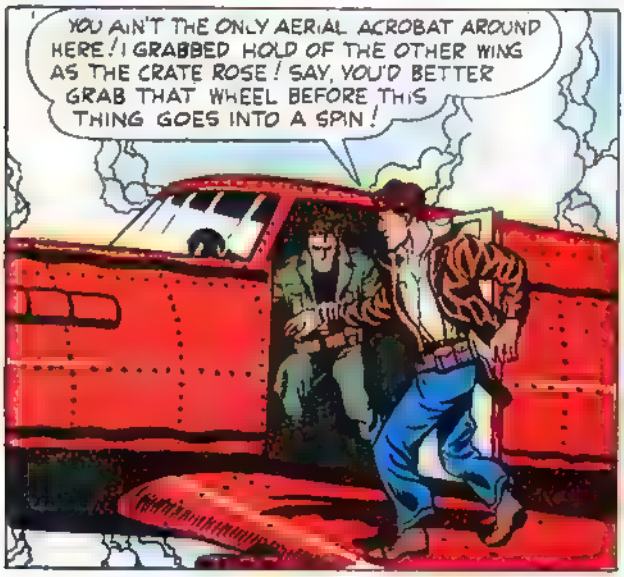

THE TWO MEN RACED AWAY AS BULLETS CLIPPED AN ERATIC DESIGN OF DEATH AROUND THEM!
WE'LL WADE ACROSS THIS RICE PADDY, SO THEY CAN'T TRACK US··· THEY GOT DOGS YOU KNOW!
I THINK WE'VE LOST THEM!
AN HOUR LATER THE TWO MEN REACHED NATIONALIST HEADQUARTERS, DEEP IN THE HILLY COUNTRY!
HERE WE ARE··HEADQUARTERS, SUCH AS IT IS! THAT ARMORED CAR IS GENERAL WING'S PRIDE AND JOY! OVER TO THE NORTH THERE ABOUT 200 FEET, ARE A FEW OF OUR PATCHED UP PLANES··THAT'S MY TERRITORY! NOT MUCH EQUIPMENT, BUT PLENTY OF MEN!
THE MEN ARE IMPORTANT! EQUIPMENT CAN BE GOTTEN!
HERE HE IS, WING ··THE AGENT FROM THE GOOD OLD U.S.!
I'VE COME A LONG WAY FOR THIS MEETING GENERAL WING!
IT IS A PLEASURE TO SEE YOU!
GENERAL, I'VE COME AS AN ACCREDITED AGENT OF MY COUNTRY TO URGE YOU TO UNLEASH YOUR GUERRILLAS AGAINST OUR MUTUAL ENEMY! IF YOU CAN CAUSE ENOUGH TROUBLE HERE, THE COMMUNISTS WILL HAVE TO KEEP SOME OF THEIR MILITARY STRENGTH OUT OF THE FIELD AGAINST US, AND POLICE HERE AT HOME!
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN! BUT WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH EQUIPMENT!
YOU HAVE ENOUGH EQUIPMENT FOR GUERRILLA WARFARE··HIT AND RUN AND HARASS, AND WE WILL SEND YOU MORE! WHAT IS THE POSITION OF YOUR FORCES? I MUST HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION I CAN GET BEFORE I RENDEZVOUS WITH MY SUB AT DAWN!
WE HAVE MANY TROOPS IN THE CHUNG TERRITORY NORTH OF HERE, AND OUR PLANES TO THE SOUTH!
WE ALSO HAVE A GROUP OF CAPTURED TANKS HIDDEN TO THE EAST THAT ONLY I KNOW OF! I HAVE HELD MY FORCES IN LEASH AWAITING WORD FROM THE ALLIED DEMOCRACIES!
WELL, YOU HAVE THAT WORD NOW! I'M GOING TO GET SOME SLEEP UNTIL IT'S TIME FOR ME TO RENDEZVOUS WITH THE SUB!
IT WAS CLOSE TO DAWN WHEN KENT BLAKE WAS AWAKENED BY THE SHRIEK AND ROAR OF EXPLODING SHELLS!
WHAT···? WHAT'S GOING ON, SOLDIER?
MANY PLANES COME··· BOMB SUBMARINE OFF SHORE!

THE SUB THAT WAS TO TAKE ME OUT OF HERE AT DAWN···IT CAN'T BE ANY OTHER! HOW DID THEY KNOW IT WOULD BE THERE?
PEERING THROUGH THE BRUSH, THE SECRET AGENT LOOKED TOWARD THE COAST, AND HELPLESSLY WATCHED THE DESTRUCTION OF THE SUBMARINE THAT WAS HIS ONLY WAY OF ESCAPE FROM RED CHINA!
LOOK THERE! THOSE PLANES ARE DROPPING BOMBS ON OUR HIDDEN TROOPS IN CHUNG TERRITORY!
SOMEONE TIPPED THE REDS OFF ABOUT THE SUB AND THE TROOPS! THERE'S A RED AGENT IN YOUR CAMP, WING!
I HAVE BEEN AWAY FROM THE HUT INSPECTING THE MEN! SOMEONE MUST HAVE USED THE RADIO TO INFORM THE COMMUNISTS, AND I THINK I KNOW WHO IT WAS! ONLY A FEW MEN HERE KNOW HOW TO USE THE RADIO SENDING KEY--AND ONE OF THEM IS SAM BANCROFT!
YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT, WING ··THOUGH I HATE TO THINK THAT AN AMERICAN WOULD PULL A TRICK LIKE THIS!
BIND AND GAG THAT MAN! HE IS A TRAITOR!
HEY, WHAT GOES?
WAIT, WING! GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO DEFEND HIMSELF! WE CAN'T BE SURE!
WE HAVE NO TIME FOR WESTERN IDEAS OF JUSTICE! PLEASE TO STAND ASIDE! CAPTAIN WONG, STAND THAT MAN AGAINST THE WALL AND FORM A FIRING SQUAD!
IMMEDIATELY, GENERAL!
BLAKE KNEW THAT HE COULDN'T STOP THE EXECUTION, AND HE MUST KEEP IN THE GOOD GRACES OF THE GUERRILLA FIGHTERS FOR THE SUCCESS OF HIS MISSION!
READY! AIM···!
HONORABLE GENERAL··· RED PLANES DROP MANY BOMBS EAST OF HERE!
EAST! THAT'S WHERE THE HIDDEN TANKS ARE THAT WING SAID ONLY HE KNEW OF··· AND SAM WASN'T IN THE ROOM WHEN HE TOLD ME! I'VE GOT TO STOP THIS EXECUTION!
4

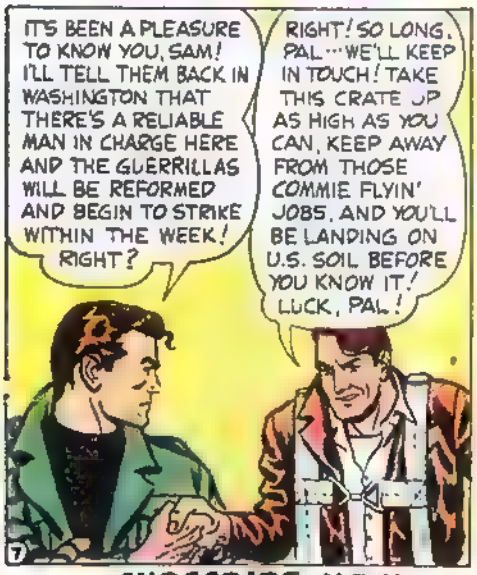
BE QUIET, FOOLISH ONE! FIRING SQUAD, MAKE READY ONCE AGAIN! READY .. AIM···
I HOPE THIS CRATE WORKS··· IT'S THE ONLY CHANCE!
THE ENGINE OF THE ARMORED CAR SPUTTERED, THEN TOOK HOLD, AND LURCHED FORWARD, JUST AS THE COMMAND CAME TO···
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?
YOU'RE SHOOTING THE WRONG MAN, WING!
IN A SECOND BLAKE REACHED THE SIDE OF THE BOUND MAN, AND IN ANOTHER SECOND HE HAD FREED HIM!
THANKS, PAL··· FOR A MINUTE THERE, I SAW THE PEARLY GATES OPENING FOR THIS CHILD!
I WILL NOT BROOK THIS INTERFERENCE! I AM IN COMMAND HERE AND THIS TRAITOR WILL BE EXECUTED!
HE ISN'T THE TRAITOR! ONLY ONE MAN KNEW OF THOSE TANKS!
YOU, WING! YOU'RE THE TRAITOR! THAT'S WHY YOU GAGGED SAM, SO HE COULDN'T SPEAK··· THAT'S WHY YOU'VE HELD THE GUERRILLAS BACK, BUT SINCE I ARRIVED IT FORCED YOUR HAND!
I AM NOT A TRAITOR··· I AM A COMMUNIST AGENT! IT IS GOOD WE SPEAK IN ENGLISH, BECAUSE THESE CHINESE DO NOT UNDERSTAND IT! I WILL SHUT YOUR MOUTHS QUICK BEFORE THEY KNOW! MEN, KILL THESE TWO-- THEY ARE BOTH TRAITORS!
THE PLANES-- THEY STRIKE AT US!
THE LOUSE--HE TOLD THEM ABOUT THE PLANES TOO! THEY'RE BOMBIN' MY CRATES TO JUNK!
BE THANKFUL THEY CAME··· IN ANOTHER MINUTE WE'D HAVE BEEN FILLED WITH LEAD!
LOOK, THE DIRTY DEVIL'S MAKIN' FOR THE CRATES! BET HE FIGURES ON GETTIN' OFF IN ONE AND JOINING HIS COMMIE PALS!
WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM, SAM! HE KNOWS EVERYTHING THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT THE GUERRILLA FORCES!

HE'S TAKIN' THE ONLY WHOLE CRATE LEFT AFTER THE BOMB NG!
IF HE GETS TO THE REDS, IT WILL BE MONTHS BEFORE THE GUERRILLAS CAN FORM AGAIN···IF AT ALL!
THE PLANE LUMBERS FORWARD···PICKS UP SPEED··· BEGINS TO RISE···
I'VE GOT TO GET TO THE CABIN··· GOT TO STOP HIM!
SLOWLY BLAKE WORKS HIS WAY ALONG THE WING, THE AIR TEARING AT HIM WITH RELENTLESS FURY··· AND DEATH CREEPING WITH HIM EVERY FOOT OF THE WAY!
ANOTHER SECOND···IF THE PLANE DOESN'T LURCH OR HIT AN AIR POCKET···!
MADE IT! THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE, WING!
YOU···!
NO, MY FRIEND···THIS IS STALEMATE! IF YOU SHOOT MY GUN WILL GO OFF, TOO AND I COULD NOT MISS AT THIS DISTANCE EVEN WITH A BULLET IN MY BRAIN! I THINK WE BOTH DIE··· UNLESS WE CAN STRIKE A BARGIN!
I DON'T BARGAIN WITH COMMUNIST RATS LIKE YOU, WING! THIS CRATE WILL BE THE COFFIN FOR BOTH OF US!




YOU AIN'T THE ONLY AERIAL ACROBAT AROUND HERE! I GRABBED HOLD OF THE OTHER WING AS THE CRATE ROSE! SAY, YOU'D BETTER GRAB THAT WHEEL BEFORE THIS THING GOES INTO A SPIN!

SAM, YOU UNDERSTAND THOSE PEOPLE DOWN THERE! THEY NEED A LEADER··ONE THAT CAN BE TRUSTED, AND I WANT YOU TO TAKE OVER! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO, AND HOW YOU CAN HELP US THE MOST! WHAT DO YOU SAY?
YOU JUST GOT YOURSELF A NEW GUERRILLA GENERAL, PAL! NOW IF YOU'LL CIRCLE AROUND, I'LL HIT THE SILK AND ROUND UP MY ARMY AGAIN!


IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE TO KNOW YOU, SAM! I'LL TELL THEM BACK IN WASHINGTON THAT THERE'S A RELIABLE MAN IN CHARGE HERE AND THE GUERRILLAS WILL BE REFORMED AND BEGIN TO STRIKE WITHIN THE WEEK! RIGHT?
RIGHT! SO LONG, PAL··· WE'LL KEEP IN TOUCH! TAKE THIS CRATE UP AS HIGH AS YOU CAN, KEEP AWAY FROM THOSE COMMIE FLYIN' JOBS, AND YOU'LL BE LANDING ON U.S. SOIL BEFORE YOU KNOW IT! LUCK, PAL!
7

AS THIS TRUE CASE HISTORY WENT TO PRESS, KENT BLAKE REQUESTED THAT WE ADD THESE, HIS OWN WORDS, AT THE END··"SOMEWHERE IN RED CHINA, A TALL, TOUGH AMERICAN FIGHTING MAN STRIKES WITH HIS GUERRILLA FORCES, AND FADES AWAY TO STRIKE AGAIN! I PAY TRIBUTE TO SAM BANCROFT, WHO LIVES WITH DANGER SO THAT OUR AMERICAN HERITAGE OF FREEDOM DOES NOT DIE!"

WE HERE, OF THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF THIS MAGAZINE, FEEL THAT SAME TRIBUTE CAN BE PAID TO KENT BLAKE, SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR FOR THE SECRET SERVICE!

THE END

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Mail this coupon with only $1 for your Spot Reducer on approval. Pay postman $8.95 plus delivery—or send $9.95 (full price) and we ship postage prepaid. Use it for ten days in your own home. Then if not delighted return Spot Reducer for full purchase price refund. Don't delay! You have nothing to lose—except ugly, embarrassing, undesirable pounds of FAT. MAIL COUPON now!

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